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PART XLV.

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

AFFAIRS OF EGYPT.

July to December 1895.

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CONFIDENTIAL.

Further Correspondence respecting the Affairs of Egypt.

PART XLV.

No. 1.

Lord Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 10.)

(No. 84.)

Cairo, June 29, 1895.

My Lord,

WITH reference to previous correspondence respecting the delimitation of the Egyptian and Italian frontiers between the Baraka and the Red Sea, and the dependency of the semi-nomadic tribes in these regions, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith copy of the Agreement which has now been finally accepted by the Egyptian and Italian authorities.

This Agreement has been signed in duplicate by Sir H. Kitchener, on behalf of the Egyptian Government, and the two signed copies have been forwarded to Massowah to receive the signature of General Baratieri. One of these will eventually be returned here when signed, and the other retained by the Italian authorities.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CROMER.

Inclosure in No. 1.

Agreement.

WITH a view to establishing in a permanent manner the dependence of the semi-nomadic tribes which exist on the frontier between the Baraka and the Red Sea, and to determining precisely the frontier separating the Italian and Egyptian territory in this region,

His Excellency Ferik Sir Herbert Kitchener Pasha, Sirdar of the Egyptian army; and

His Excellency Cavaliere Oreste Baratieri, Lieutenant-General, Governor of the Colony of Eritrea;

Authorized by their respective Governments, have agreed to the following Articles:—

Article 1. In the district between the Red Sea and the Baraka the frontier-line between Egypt and Eritrea shall follow a line which, starting from Ras Kassar, joins the principal branch of the Karora about 2 kilom. from the coast, and follows the course of the Karora up to a point marked "Karora" on the map. The frontier then follows the watershed between the torrents Aïet and Merib on the north, and the torrents Falkat and Sela on the south, up to a point on the plateau of Hagar-Nush to be fixed by the delineators; and from the point so fixed shall proceed to join the Baraka at a point which is also left to the delineators to establish, following a clearly determined natural line. From the Baraka the line of frontier goes straight to the intersection of the 17th parallel north with the 37th meridian east of Greenwich.

Art. 2. The semi-nomadic tribes on the frontier known as the Hazerandawa (Ad-Azeri), Felunda (Aflenda), Beit Maleh, and Roshaida, together with the sections of the Beni-Amer at present acknowledging the authority of Sheikh Idris Hamed, are recognized as dependent on the Egyptian Government; and the Beni-Amer acknowledging Sheikhs Ali Hussein and Mahmud Sherif, as well as the Hababs, are recognized as depending on the Government of Eritrea.

Art. 3. The two Governments bind themselves to concede reciprocally, reserving to themselves the power of imposing a moderate tax in payment, rights of pasturage and cultivation in their respective territories to such alien tribes as apply for the concession through their respective Governments. Such concession shall be limited only by the requirements of public safety and by the needs of other local tribes dependent on the Government giving the concession.

Art. 4. The two Governments bind themselves reciprocally to oppose, as far as is practicable, the settlement in their respective territories of tribes who may cross the frontier in consequence of rebellion or defection of their Chiefs.

In the interests of public tranquillity, the two Governments further bind themselves to take into consideration, according to the circumstances of each case, the expediency of total or partial disarmament of the tribes on the frontier, due allowance being made for the requirements of their defence.

Each of the two Governments, however, reserves to itself full liberty to decide upon the measures which it shall take in its own territory, both as regards the means of opposing the immigration of rebellious tribes, and in respect to the time, method, and extent of the disarmament to which this Article refers.

(Signed) HERBERT KITCHENER,
Sirdar, Egyptian Army.

Cairo, June 25, 1895.

No. 2.

Mr. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 10.)

(No. 53.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Cairo, July* 10, 1895.

THE Khedive intends to start on the 15th instant for a yachting cruise in the Archipelago after having first visited Constantinople. He wishes to go to the Island of Thasos, which is a Wakf of the Khedivial family, and it is understood that he anticipated difficulties if he did not obtain the Sultan's permission before doing so.

(Copy sent to Constantinople.)

No. 3.

Mr. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 15.)

(No. 87.)
My Lord, *Cairo, July* 7, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to report that by a recent decision of the Khedive and the Council of Ministers, it was determined that the system of recruiting for the army, to which all Egyptians are legally liable, but which has hitherto only been put into execution in the country districts, should henceforth be equally applied to the towns. The system is a somewhat complicated one. By the Organic Law of 1885 all Egyptians, with certain specified exemptions, are liable to military service between the ages of 19 and 23, and may be called upon to draw the lot at any time within that period. It remains open to them, however, to purchase immunity from the liability to draw the lot on payment of 20*l*. The income derived from this source forms an important item in providing the military budget. Owing to the comparatively small number of men under arms, and the high standard consequently required by the authorities, the men are not, as a rule, called upon to join the colours until they reach the age of 23, or, at any rate, 22.

The town districts have hitherto been exempted from these obligations in deference to a desire expressed by the late Khedive, but the obligation, though suspended, was still legally binding on them.

With a view to a gradual increase of the army, and to meet the expense incidental thereto, it was consequently decided to withdraw this immunity, and the principle was readily agreed to by the Khedive and the Council. The measure was enthusiastically received by the country districts, which will be considerably relieved thereby, and hailed

as a proof that equal measure of justice to all denominations was now to be the rule in Egypt. In Alexandria, however, there was a natural reluctance to submit to the new liability, and no efforts were spared to obtain a reversal of the decision.

It was accordingly discovered that a clause in a subsequent recruiting Law of 1888 afforded the required plea for contesting the validity of the decision to put the Law of 1885 in force. This Decree had been passed in order to regulate the recruiting in the country, where, under the Law of 1885, the large mass of people to be dealt with between 19 and 23, together with those coming into the category in the ensuing years, made the application of the law difficult, and to make the drawing of the lot an annual instead of a quinquennial operation. It was thereby decided to mass together in 1888 and 1889 all those who had not yet fulfilled their obligations to the State, together with those who, in the meantime, reached the age of 19, and in future from 1890 on, only to call up for "tirage au sort" the young men who in each ensuing year reached the age of 19.

This clause, which, of course, had no reference to the individuals in regard to whom the whole law was in suspense, was invoked to establish the principle that now that the towns were liable, only those who in this year, and each ensuing year, reached the age of 19, could be called upon. This would not only have involved very large loss of revenue, but would also have had for effect that none of the town conscripts would have joined the colours for five years, as they are only taken at 23. It, moreover, would have involved injustice to the country districts, in burdening them with the whole liability, in spite of the decision of the Council to transfer their due share of liability between the age of 19 and 23 to the towns.

It appears that very strong influences were at work to induce His Highness to maintain the letter of the 1888 Law in their favour, although it was pointed out that, if this Law was held to supersede the Law of 1885, the exemptions provided by the former, and not recapitulated in the latter, could no longer be invoked.

I am glad, however, to be able to report to your Lordship that the difficulty has been met in a spirit of firmness. A new law was drafted assimilating the treatment of the town populations to that of the country populations in 1885, and providing that in due course the same facilities will be afforded them as were afforded the country districts by the Decree of 1888. This new law, supported unanimously by the Council, was at once accepted by the Khedive, and comes into immediate execution, and a situation which three days ago threatened to produce serious complications has been rapidly disposed of in a spirit of equity and justice.

I have entered at this length into a matter of internal interest because all sorts of rumours have got abroad in consequence of the sudden return of the Sirdar, who had already started to embark for Europe, and because such incidents in Egypt are so apt to receive exaggerated importance, and to be misinterpreted in the European press.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RENNELL RODD.

No. 4.

Sir P. Currie to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 18.)

(No. 302.)
(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople, July* 18, 1895.

KHEDIVE arrived this morning at 9·30.

No. 5.

Sir P. Currie to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 21.)

(No. 310.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Constantinople, July* 21, 1895, 10·30 A.M.

THE Khanehdan Osman, the Sultan's family Order, has been conferred on the Khedive by His Majesty, but, as far as I can learn as yet, there is no political object in His Highness' visit, which is made on the Sultan's invitation.

No. 6.

Mr. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 22.)

(No. 88.)

My Lord, *Cairo, July* 9, 1895.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 87 of the 7th instant I have the honour to transmit herewith, extracted from the official Gazette, the new Decree regulating the conditions of recruiting for the army in the towns of Egypt, rendered necessary through the circumstances described in my despatch above referred to.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RENNELL RODD.

Inclosure in No. 6.

Extract from the Egyptian "Journal Officiel" of July 7, 1895.

Décret.

NOUS, Khédive d'Égypte,

Sur la proposition de notre Ministre de la Guerre et de la Marine et l'avis conforme de notre Conseil des Ministres;

Considérant que le Décret Organique du 26 Mars, 1885, a astreint au service militaire tout Égyptien, sujet local, âgé de 19 à 23 ans, et a établi certains cas de dispense ou d'exemption;

Considérant que les opérations du tirage au sort portaient en une seule fois sur les jeunes gens âgés de 19 à 23 ans;

Considérant que le Gouvernement, dans le but de rendre le tirage au sort annuel, prescrivit, par Décret du 1er Mars, 1888, certaines mesures pour accomplir dans un délai déterminé le tirage au sort des jeunes gens âgés de 20 à 23 ans, de manière à n'avoir plus a recruter à partir de 1890, que des jeunes gens âgés de 19 ans;

Considérant que pour des raisons d'opportunité, le Gouvernement a sursis à l'application du Décret Organique du 26 Mars, 1885, dans les villes du Caire, Alexandrie, Damiette, Rosette, Port-Saïd, Ismaïlia, et Suez;

Considérant que le Gouvernement ayant décidé de mettre fin à ce sursis et d'exécuter les dispositions formelles de l'Article 36 du Décret Organique, il y a lieu d'appliquer aux jeunes gens des villes ci-dessus indiquées le traitement qui a déjà été appliqué aux jeunes gens des autres localités;

Considérant que le Décret du 1er Mars, 1888, n'a fait que régler d'une façon générale la situation de tous ceux qui étaient assujettis au service militaire, conformément au Décret Organique du 26 Mars, 1885, sans en excepter ceux visés par l'Article 36 du même Décret; qu'en conséquence le Décret du 1er Mars, 1888, n'a jamais entendu déroger au principe fondamental qui astreint au service militaire tous les Égyptiens sujets locaux, âgés de 19 à 23 ans, ni supprimer les cas de dispense ou d'exemption prévus par la loi;

Considérant que par application du Décret du 1er Mars, 1888, et pour établir la parité absolue de traitement entre les jeunes gens des villes susmentionnées et ceux des autres localités, il est de toute justice d'adopter à l'égard des premiers des mesures transitoires pour n'avoir plus à recruter annuellement à partir de 1899, c'est-à-dire dans cinq ans, que des jeunes gens âgés de 19 ans,

Décrétons:

Article 1er.—Notre Ministre de la Guerre et de la Marine est autorisé à prendre toutes les dispositions nécessaires afin que dans les villes du Caire, d'Alexandrie, Damiette, Rosette, Port-Saïd, Ismaïlia, et Suez, le tirage au sort pour les jeunes gens âgés de 20 à 23 ans soit réparti de 1895 à 1898, de manière que la classe de 1899 comprenne les jeunes gens âgés de 19 ans et ainsi de suite pour chaque tirage annuel ultérieur.

Art. 2. Tous les Décrets antérieurs sont maintenus dans toutes celles de leurs dispositions qui ne sont pas contraires à celles du présent Décret.

Art. 3. Le présent Décret entrera en vigueur le lendemain de la date de sa publication au "Journal Officiel."

Art. 4. Notre Ministre de la Guerre et de la Marine est chargé de l'exécution du présent Décret.

Fait au Palais de Ras-el-Tine, le 6 Juillet, 1895 (13 Moharrem, 1313).

(Signé) ABBAS HILMI.

Par le Khédive:

Pour le Président du Conseil des Ministres,

Le Ministre de la Guerre et de la Marine,

(Signé) MOUSTAPHA FEHMY.

No. 7.

Mr. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 22.)

(No. 89.)

My Lord, *Cairo, July* 10, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that a new press incident has arisen here which has excited considerable comment.

Some days ago a duel was fought between M. Kyriacopoulos, a Greek subject, editor of the "Progrès," a paper which supports British policy in Egypt, and the French editor of the notorious "Journal Égyptien," who writes under the name of Picard. In the course of this encounter the latter was wounded in the shoulder.

The motives of the duel were the mutual recriminations which these two organs have for the last twelve months been engaging in, in which, if the "Progrès" had somewhat the best of it in literary ability and humour, the "Journal" certainly took the prize for insolence.

M. Kyriacopoulos, who is an expert swordsman, had done his best to avoid an encounter with an adversary who was unskilled in arms, and in the columns of the "Progrès" the authorship of the articles complained of was openly avowed by the sub-editor, a certain M. Campana, a Frenchman of considerable ability, but somewhat doubtful antecedents.

On the strength of this avowal, M. Campana was arrested two days after the duel by order of the French Consul-General, and he has now been deported from Egypt, it is stated in the French papers in virtue of an old Statute authorizing the expulsion of French subjects who publish matter detrimental to the interests of the Colony.

M. Cogordan's action in this matter is a good deal criticized, on the grounds that the deportation of Campana two days after the duel is likely to be interpreted as an act of reprisal, while it emphasizes the solidarity of the French Colony with the disgraceful utterances of the "Journal Égyptien," which only a few days ago informed the public that "l'horrible boucher de l'Ouganda" had been decorated with the Order of the "Bain du Sang."

It also disposes of the pretext so often maintained, that the French authorities have no control over their publicists in Egypt, and shows that the boasted liberty of the French press abroad only exists in so far as it does not come into conflict with their protective tariff.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RENNELL RODD.

No. 8.

Mr. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 26.)

(No. 93.)

My Lord, *Cairo, July* 19, 1895.

WITH reference to Lord Cromer's despatch to the Earl of Kimberley No. 84 of the 29th ultimo, forwarding the text of the Agreement for the delimitation of the frontier between Italian and Egyptian territory, and for regulating the dependence of the semi-nomadic tribes settled between the Baraka and the Red Sea, I have the

honour to report that the Agreement has now received the signature of General Baratieri, and one copy of it now duly signed by both Plenipotentiaries has been returned from Massowah to Cairo.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RENNELL RODD.

No. 9.

Mr. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 26.)

(No. 55.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Ramleh, July* 26, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that as a funeral party belonging to the East Yorkshire Regiment were leaving the cemetery in Cairo they were followed by a mob of natives, who hooted them, and in some instances stones were thrown. The importance of the incident is diminished by the fact that the cemetery is situated in a quarter of the city which is inhabited by the lowest class of Arabs.

The police took action in the matter with promptitude. I have addressed a note to the Egyptian Minister for Foreign Affairs, requesting that the Governor of Cairo be instructed to pay a visit to Major-General Forestier-Walker, and express his regret at the outrage committed on Her Majesty's troops.

I shall have the honour to forward to your Lordship further details of this incident by the outgoing mail.

No. 10.

Mr. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 30.)

(No. 56.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Cairo, July* 30, 1895.

WITH reference to my telegram No. 55, I have to report that the Governor of Cairo called on General Walker to-day and expressed his regret, informing him at the same time of the steps taken by the police. The General is quite satisfied.

No. 11.

Mr. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 5.)

(No. 97.)
My Lord, *Cairo, July* 25, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that I have just received from Major-General Sir F. Walker, commanding the forces in Egypt, information as to a most regrettable incident which occurred in Cairo on Sunday last, when a funeral party of the East Yorkshire Regiment was on duty at the Roman Catholic cemetery on the outskirts of Cairo. As they were leaving the cemetery, on the conclusion of the service, they found a crowd of low-class natives round the gates, who with difficulty made room for them to pass, and then followed them, hooting and throwing stones, for about half-a-mile until they reached the transport waggons provided to take them back to the barracks.

To prevent undue importance being attached to this incident, which could not, I believe, have occurred in any respectable thoroughfare in Cairo, I should mention that the Roman Catholic cemetery is situated near a suburb inhabited by the very lowest class of the population, and filled with native brothels of the most abject description.

The police, as soon as they were informed of the outrage, appear to have acted with promptitude. Nine of the culprits were at once arrested, and steps are being taken to discover others who took part in the disturbance. They have also undertaken to insure the impossibility of any repetition of such scenes.

On receiving the Commanding Officer's Report yesterday I at once called upon the Acting President of the Council of Ministers, and informed him that I should require a visit of apology from the Governor of Cairo to General Sir F. Walker, and I have the

honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith copy of the note which I have addressed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs making this request officially.

Fakhry Pasha assured me that he was convinced that this was a wholly exceptional and local incident, to be traced solely to the blackguardly character of the population of the suburb in question. While admitting that this may be, to a great extent, the case, the attitude of the native population towards officers and foreigners in general is by no means satisfactory, and I trust that your Lordship will approve of the principle that the authorities who are morally to blame for exciting the people by giving a free hand and material encouragement to a scandalous native press should, on an occasion like the present, be visited with a portion of the responsibility.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RENNELL RODD.

Inclosure in No. 11.

Mr. Rodd to Boutros Pasha.

M. le Ministre, *Cairo, July* 26, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to draw your Excellency's attention to a regrettable incident which occurred in connection with the funeral of a soldier of the East Yorkshire Regiment at the Roman Catholic cemetery in Cairo on Sunday last, the 21st instant.

It appears from the reports which have been received from the officer in charge of the funeral party on duty that a large crowd had collected at the gates of the cemetery. As the detachment, consisting of from eighty to ninety men, left the cemetery the crowd commenced hooting at them, and followed them howling and throwing stones until they reached the transport waggons which were in waiting about half-a-mile from the gates to take them back to barracks.

I have the honour to transmit to your Excellency herewith two reports made by Lieutenant Armstrong, the officer in charge of the funeral party, and an extract from a letter from the Rev. Father Brindle, Chaplain to the Forces, who, though himself following some distance behind, is able to corroborate the statements made as to the attitude and behaviour of the crowd surrounding the cemetery.

It is satisfactory to notice that the police, upon receiving information of what had occurred, at once took prompt measures to arrest and punish those of the offenders whom they were able to secure.

I am also quite ready to admit that allowance must be made for exceptional circumstances, the inhabitants of the suburb near which the Roman Catholic cemetery is situated being well known to belong to the lowest and most unruly classes of the population. At the same time, the case is wholly without precedent in Cairo, and in view of reports which have reached me from authoritative sources as to the attitude of the native population there towards officers in uniform, it is not without significance.

I need not point out to your Excellency the extreme gravity of anything in the nature of an attack upon soldiers of the Army of Occupation while engaged in the execution of their duties, and the paramount importance of impressing this upon those who are responsible for the behaviour of the native population; therefore, without wishing to attach undue importance to the present incident, I feel that it is one which cannot be passed over.

I have the honour, therefore, to ask your Excellency to bring this matter to the knowledge of the Council of Ministers, together with my request that, on the return of General Sir F. Walker to Cairo, the Governor of Cairo, as Chief Representative of the city, should call upon him to express his regret at the outrage which has been committed, and give the necessary assurances that all possible steps will be taken to prevent the recurrence of such deplorable episodes in future.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) RENNELL RODD.

No. 12.

Mr. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 5.)

(No. 8. Africa. Confidential.)

My Lord, *Cairo, July 27, 1895.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith the Report of the Intelligence Department of the Egyptian War Office for the month of May, together with its Appendices (B) and (C), being letters received by Zubair Pasha with reference to Rabeh Zubair.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RENNELL RODD.

Inclosure in No. 12.

Intelligence Department.—Report of the Egyptian War Office, May 1895.

(Confidential.)

SUMMARY of news contained in Cairo, Suakin, and Frontier Intelligence Diaries:—

Cairo Diary from 18th June to 18th July; Frontier Diaries from 11th June to 16th July (and telegraphic information to 21st July); Suakin Diaries from 13th June to 6th July (and telegraphic information to 21st July).

Omdurman and the Soudan generally.

News of important changes in the Dervish administration have recently been received through the frontier from our Secret Agent No. 1.

He writes a letter, dated 3rd July, to the effect that the Khalifa—

1. Has released Khalifa Sherif from prison;
2. Has recalled Mohammed Khaled Zogal from banishment at Raggaf;
3. Has deprived his brother Yakub of his position and wealth;
4. Has appointed his son Osman instead;
5. Has sent a peremptory order to Yunes, at Dongola, to proceed to Omdurman (which he obeyed);

Bekhit Nammuri and Taaishi are appointed instead (provisionally).

A translation of the letter is attached as Appendix (A).

His report appears to be confirmed by the news received from Suakin (23rd June to 6th July), with the exception that the Khalifa did not dismiss his brother Yakub to replace him by his son Osman, but that he declared that he wishes his son to succeed to the Khalifate after his death, which is very probable.

It is reported that Khalifa Sherif confessed before Khalifa Abdulla that he committed a great sin against God, the Mahdi, and the Khalifa, and most humbly begged for pardon, and told him that his punishment was by God's will, and that the Khalifa granted him pardon and released him from prison on the 4th day of Baïram.

Kadi Ahmed is reported by Suakin to have died in prison, and buried near Zaki Zummal's tomb.

Fauzi Pasha is reported, also by Suakin, to have been put in prison and bound with two chains, in consequence of a letter found in his baggage stating that he was paid a sum of money by Sadik Osman.

Arrivals from the Soudan still report the great anger of the Khalifa at Slatin Pasha's escape.

The Khalifa held a Council of Emirs on the Baïram Feast, in which Emir Zaki, Osman Digna, Abdulla Wad Saad, Ibrahim Wad Hamza, and other Berber, &c., Emirs were present, and among the questions which he discussed in this Council was the escape of Slatin Pasha.

It is said that Ibrahim Wad Hamza, who is the Head Emir of Berber tribes, was found to have had the chief part in the escape of Slatin Pasha, and, therefore, the Khalifa had him imprisoned.

Mohammed El Ogeil and Sadik Osman are still in prison, and, according to the latest news, the Khalifa has expressed his final intentions, and said that he does not

wish to kill them, but, as they were proved guilty of helping infidels, he must punish them.

Osman Digna is reported to have asked the Khalifa to pardon all those who were connected in Slatin Pasha's escape, and to have said that he thought it was a good thing that an infidel had left their country, and hoped that all the other Muslamanis detained in Omdurman be allowed to go to their homes, as they do more harm at Omdurman than good. The Khalifa laughed at Osman Digna's idea, and said that he regrets not having placed Slatin in close confinement, for he knew that he was a great unbeliever.

Equatoria.—No fresh news. The steamer which left Omdurman for Equatoria after the capture of Kassala by the Italians, which was to bring back the banished Emirs, such as Zogal, Hassan Khalifa, &c., has not yet returned, and therefore no fresh news is heard at Omdurman of that part. News has arrived here, through Suakin, that the steamer is now detained by the "sudd," and that the Khalifa has sent boats to relieve it.

The Western Soudan.

El Obeid.—A very intelligent Jaali merchant, named Musa Wad Ahmed, arrived here from El Obeid.

He left El Obeid on the 3rd April, 1895, and travelling viâ Omdurman and Suakin with gum, arrived here on the 14th July, 1895.

The Emir at El Obeid when Musa, the reporter, left it was a certain Taaishi called Isa Ez Zain.

The garrison is composed of 100 Jehadia and horsemen, as the country of Kordofan is now in perfect peace, and the bazaar of El Obeid is open to all.

The blacks of Jebel Dair, who used to raid on El Obeid, are now in peace with the Dervishes. Last year a Treaty was concluded between the Dervish Emir and the Mek of the Jebel to stop raids and open the route for trade between Jebel Dair and Obeid.

Slave Trade is brisk there; slaves are very cheap; but of course only female slaves are allowed to be sold.

The trade route to Dongola is stopped, also the Arbain road to Assiut, as the Dervishes want to cut Kordofan and Darfur from Egypt in order to prevent desertion.

El Fasher.—The bulk of the Dervish force has been stationed here since January 1894, under Emir Mahmud.

He has—

4,500 Jehadia, armed with Remington and other rifles.
700 horses.
5,000 sword and spear men.
4 guns.

The Gimr, Tama, Masalit, and Sulla of Abu Bisha have for some time combined against the Dervishes, and, according to Slatin Pasha, one of the Mahmud's lieutenants, Fadlalla Sharaf-ed-Din, was killed and his force of 600 men defeated in a battle with these revolting tribes; just about the time Slatin left Omdurman (20th February, 1895) Mahmud had been permitted by the Khalifa to advance against them with a big force.

Musa reports that the tribes attacked Mahmud in his zariba at El Birak in Dar Tama, but they were defeated and had to withdraw, leaving many of their Chiefs dead on the field, but inflicted severe loss on Mahmud's force.

The day Musa left Omdurman (27th April, 1895) he saw three heads and three rayas which were sent by Mahmud to the Khalifa with the information that they were the heads of western Sultans and their rayas.

Another arrival from Waidai called Zein-el-Abdin Ahmed, a native of Kobbé, who has been living there for the last eight years as a merchant, completes the account of Mahmud with those tribes.

Zein-el-Abdin left Weddai with a companion and a countryman called Mohammed Abd-er-Rahman on the 16th February, 1895, and, travelling viâ Benghazi and Alexandria, arrived here on the 4th July, 1895.

He states after his flight Sultan of Wad Gimr came to the frontier of Dar Weddai and asked help from its Sultan, which up to his departure from Weddai he had not sent him.

The above news is confirmed by a letter received by Zubair Pasha from his friend Salem-el-Mutawi at Benghazi, which letter is attached as Appendix (B).

Bahr-el-Ghazal.—Slatin's information leaves El Khatim Musa in the Farogé country with the intention to drive the Europeans from Bahr-el-Ghazal and secure it for the Khalifa.

Our El Obeid reporter, Musa, gives us information preceding this, and then continues:

He says that he has not been in Bahr-el-Ghazal, but before he left El Obeid a friend of his and an old merchant of Zubeir Pasha's men, called Mohammed Ali, was there and fought in one of the battles.

Mohammed Ali told him that a few Europeans (whom the reporters called Frenchmen) came to Bahr-el-Ghazal some time ago and made an alliance with Zemio, an old slave of Zubeir Pasha, and in company with him they asked Hamad of the Farogé to establish a Commercial Treaty with them, but he refused.

He (Mohammed Ali) was with Hamad when Zemio and the Europeans advanced against them, and after a hot fight Hamad was put to flight and many of his men were killed; he himself was wounded and taken prisoner.

Hamad had to give in, and he made a Commercial Treaty with the Europeans. Mohammed Ali was well treated by Zemio, who knew him before, and after giving him valuable presents he allowed him to return to El Obeid.

There were not more than thirty Europeans in all. They had red flags, and Zemio has one too. Their last station was at Kutwaka, between Dem Daud and Farogé, one day's march from each place. Hofret-en-Nahas was the northernmost point they had reached.

Slatin Pasha reports advance of the Khetim Musa to Farogé, the good reception of Hamad-el-Forogni to Khatim Musa, and the flight of the Europeans south.

Musa Wad Ahmed says that famine and disease broke out in El Khatim Musa's camp, and many of his men died; also most of his black Jehadia deserted to Zemio, who was then at Dem Suleiman. Zemio, hearing of these desertions, and that famine and disease were spreading in the camp, marched against him.

El Khatim Musa had only 800 (out of 4,000 men) left, and most of these were sick.

He found that he could not oppose Zemio, and therefore retreated to Kalaka, and from there sent and asked for reinforcement from Mahmud, who was at Birak.

Mahmud ordered him to come with the remainder of his force to Birak, and before Musa left El Obeid he heard that El Khatim Musa had obeyed the summons. Ez Zubeir Wad-el-Fahl, who was sent by the Khalifa to Bahr-el-Ghazal, and who remained at Shakka for some time, accompanied Khatim Musa to Bahr-el-Ghazal and thence to Darfur. Bashar Wenis, who was Emir of Shakka, was replaced by a man belonging to Abu Mariam's party, named Abu Khawata.

The Bahr-el-Ghazal Province is therefore again left open to the Europeans, and it is now very difficult for the Dervishes to establish themselves there.

The Europeans are liked by the natives, and according to Mohammed Ali, who left Bahr-el-Ghazal in 1894, they are all of one nation, and no new European arrivals came while he was there.

Weddai.—The two Darfurian merchants already referred to in this Report, who came recently from Weddai, give some information about this country and its relations with the surrounding countries.

They state Sultan Yusef [*sic*]; the Sultan is now about 50 years of age, and he is very much liked by his people.

He wears a white jebba, a big white turban, and red shoes. No one but him wears white except the Emirs, the people wear blue jebbas, and walk barefooted.

The people of Weddai love the Koran and respect their Fikis and Olamas.

The Imam of the Sultan is a certain Imam El Jezuli, a native of Weddai, who was brought up and educated at Kano.

The Sultan's Palace is built with red bricks, also the Emirs' houses, but the natives live in huts built of mortar and the stalks of dukhn.

The grain crop is dukhn and durra. Their chief food is milk and meat cooked with bamia (kidney beans), squashes, and melukhia. Date trees grow in the country, but not in large groves. Their supply of dates comes from Shaloba.

The Weddai army is composed of 20,000 men under the following four Commanders, called Akids, viz.:—

El Akid Jarma.
" Es Salamat.
" El Jaatna.
" Er Rashid.

Their troops are armed with Remington rifles, which they got from Darfur and flint-lock rifles, which they got from Benghazi.

The Sultan had one old gun, but Zogal, when Governor of Darfur, sent him four guns, with Egyptian artillerymen, as was previously reported.

There are now eight men left. The Sultan gives them wives and lands, and treats them with great kindness. They enjoy their lives very much, and do not wish to return.

The Sultan has about 10,000 horses scattered for grazing in the country.

Weddai and Darfur.—It has been mentioned how Weddai stands at present with Darfur.

The Weddai people hate the Dervishes bitterly on account of their cruelty and disregard of the Mahommedan law, and they would prefer any sort of death to submission to them.

The trade route between Weddai and Darfur is stopped. Desertion from Darfur to Weddai, however, is not unfrequent; some of these deserters take with them their arms and ammunition, which they sell to the Weddayans at good prices.

There are several Darfurian and a few Danagla and Jaalin merchants who reside in Weddai and carry on a brisk trade between Weddai and Dar Runga and other countries to the south of Weddai.

The route to Bornu is still stopped.

In consequence of the route to Darfur being stopped, pilgrims to Mecca from Weddai have considerably decreased, as the northern desert journey is very fatiguing and expensive, so very few people can afford it.

Weddai and the Senussi.—The relations between the King of Weddai and the Senussi are very friendly, and the latter receives from the former many valuable presents.

Weddai and Rabeh.—The letter, Appendix (B), received by Zubair Pasha from his friend Salem-el-Mutawi at Benghazi, which has already been referred to, relates to Rabeh and Weddai.

Another letter was also received by Zubair Pasha from his friend at Benghazi, which I attach as Appendix (C).

The two Darfurians referred to in this letter are the reporters from Weddai, who have already been mentioned.

These two men, reverting to the early conquests of Rabeh, confirm the news which we have received about him.

They mention the murder of sixty Christian travellers in Dar Runga by Senussi, one of Rabeh's lieutenants, four years ago, and the subsequent murder of other travellers in Dar Banda; they also state that Rabeh still holds Bagirmi and those heathen districts which he had conquered in the country south of Weddai.

The Sultan of Bagirmi, who escaped after the siege and fall, is now at Debbaba, three and a-half days east of Bagirmi.

The son of Rabeh, Fadlalla, is in Logon, and has control of Bagirmi and all the other south-eastern countries that they had conquered.

Rabeh is still at Dikwa, and the contents of the two letters above mentioned, viz., Appendices (B) and (C), are fully confirmed by the two Darfurian reporters.

Sultan of Weddai will not open the trade route between him and Rabeh, but Rabeh is determined to open it. If one of them does not give way, war between them must ensue, but Rabeh is at present busy in consolidating his power in Bornu; after this is done he will then turn his attention to Weddai and the trade route. Traders now are allowed to come from Bornu to Weddai, but neither traders nor emigrants are allowed to pass from Weddai to Bornu.

(Secret.)

Weddai and Messenger to Rabeh.—These two merchants give us very interesting news regarding our first messenger to Rabeh, viz., Es Sayed Hassan Esh Sherif-el-Husseini, who was sent on the 6th June, 1893, by this Department with letters from the Sirdar and Zobeir Pasha calling upon Rabeh to open the route to the Soudan pilgrims to Mecca.

The reporters knew nothing of the message, and they give their statement regarding the messenger as follows:—

Last year a certain Sherif Hassan, coming from Mecca through the Great Desert, arrived at Weddai with a big caravan. He had a camel with him, and arms, including a Turkish sword which he used to carry on his side wherever he went.

He told the Sultan that he was a Sherif from Mecca, and that he was going round the Moslem world to visit its Sultans and ask them alms.

The Sultan received him with kindness and gave him good gifts.

After a stay of a few days in Weddai's capital (Ab Bashr), the Sherif asked the Sultan leave to visit Rabeh. He said, "I know you are not on good terms with Rabeh, but that does not prevent me from visiting him. I am a man of religion, who cares not for policy, and wish that all Moslem Sultans should be one." The Sultan of Weddai said that he had no doubt of his intentions, but that he did not advise him to go and visit Rabeh, and ordered him to remain at Weddai.

After a short stay the Sherif took the opportunity of a caravan which was going north, and asked the Sultan to allow him to go back home. The Sultan permitted him, and the Sherif accompanied this caravan, which started from Weddai in September 1894, as far as Om Shaloba, eight days' march from Weddai, whence he hired some Arab guides who knew the way and crossed the desert towards Rabeh. The news of his flight to Rabeh reached the Sultan of Weddai, who was very angry and wanted to intercept the Sherif, but it was too late.

This is the story of the two Darfurians regarding the messenger to Rabeh, who, it may be remembered, is an intelligent man, and may now be with Rabeh at Dikwa.

Siwa and the Movements of the Senussi.

The state of affairs in this district appears to be growing worse. It must be remembered that the inhabitants of the Eastern Desert are for the most part firm believers in the Senussi, are constantly urging him to declare himself the Mahdi and preach the Jehad against all infidels. The inhabitants of Siwa number some 4,000 males, of which about three-quarters are adherents of Senussi; the remainder are followers of the Medani Tarika, whose representative is Es Sayed Mohammed-el-Medani Ez Zafer, who lives at Constantinople, but who has agents at Siwa. These sects are very antagonistic and are constantly fighting. The Senussi, personally, is described as a timid man of no great force of character; his principal desire appears to be allowed to live in peace surrounded with that amount of pomp and luxury that circumstances allow. He has lately been obliged to quit his settlement at Jerghbub, suspecting unfriendly designs from the Turks at Benghazi. It is possible that this fact may influence his future conduct and induce him to follow a decided line of policy and stir up a religious ferment.

In May last a man named Hassan Effendi Sherif was appointed Mamur of Siwa. He is a Muwallid from Berber, and was for over twelve years in Government employment as a Moawin, when he was taken a prisoner by the Dervishes at the fall of that town. He subsequently escaped to Cairo, where he was periodically employed by the Intelligence Department on missions to the eastern oases. Last year he accompanied Mr. Weld Blundell to Siwa. He is a trustworthy man, and it was through the agency of the Intelligence Department that he received his present appointment. His reports are interesting, and throw much light on a district over which the Egyptian Government exercises little or no control. His last Report reached Cairo only yesterday (21st July, 1895).

1. He reports that, according to the latest news at Siwa, the Senussi is now at the Oasis of Kufra, for a letter was received by Osman Habbun, his agent at Siwa, ordering him to send fifty loads of dates and olives to Kuffra.

2. That he left Jerghbub because he received information from Benghazi that the Turkish authorities intended to arrest him; that the following people accompanied him to Kufra: his brother Mohammed-esh-Sherif and the rest of his family, his agent, Mohammed-el-Baskari, El Haj Mohammed-et-Tinni, and 100 pupils and slaves. He left at Jerghbub, as his agents, a son of Mohammed-esh-Sherif, a boy of 14 years, with Ahmed Errifi and Abu Seif Mukareb as Wekils.

3. That the Turkish Government had sent soldiers to Jalo, who arrested all the Sheikhs and Omdehs there, and took them to Benghazi, for having helped the Senussi through their territory, but no soldiers have as yet been to Jerghbub.

4. That, when the Senussi left, he took with him to Kufra 400 camels laden with arms and ammunition, chiefly Remington rifles, which he had obtained from the Bedouins, who, it appears, obtained them in 1882, and afterwards made away with them.

5. That the Senussi has large numbers of camels grazing in Jeel-el-Akhdar, and in the Botnan, Bahra, and Derna districts, the latter under the charge of Es Sayed Hussein-el-Ghuryani; he is said to have sold 100 camels in Behera, and that his agent in Alexandria will purchase arms with the proceeds.

6. That his agent in Cairo is Sheikh Sheneiwi Abdullah, of the El Azhar Olama, who lives in the Esh Sheikh-ed-Dureidi quarter, Darb-el-Ahmar Street, Cairo; his agent in Alexandria is Mohammed Abu Bakr, who lives at Kubbari; these agents keep Senussi informed of all that goes on and execute his commissions.

7. That Senussi used to coin a certain supply of Medjidie and Maria Tereza dollars at Jerghbub, which he passed amongst the Bedouins.

8. That on his being asked why he left Jerghbub, the Senussi gave out that he had been ordered to do so by the Prophet Isa, but that in due course he would return.

9. That when his adherents at Siwa heard that he was leaving Jerghbub, they, taking their weapons with them, went there and told him they were ready to fight and, if need be, die for him. The Senussi thanked them, but ordered them back to wait at their homes until they were called.

10. The agents of Senussi at Siwa are Osman Habbun and Ibrahim Muarref; they are very troublesome, and incite the people to fanaticism, refusing to pay Government taxes, declaring that Christians rule in Egypt, and that, instead of paying taxes, they should keep their money to buy arms, ammunition, and horses to fight for the Jehad; that the Senussites at Siwa are mostly armed with rifles, for which they have a certain quantity of ammunition, and they assert that, if the Government use force, they will oppose them.

Hassan Effendi Sherif has drawn up and forwarded to the Minister of Interior a Report on the condition of affairs at Siwa, which bears, in addition to his own seal, those of the Notables and officials, with the exception of the Moawin, who is suspected of having an arrangement with Senussi. He has suggested that the following steps be taken at once to restore law and order in this disaffected district:—

1. That the Moawin be removed.

2. That the five soldiers (Bashi-Bazouks) be removed; they have now been over ten years in the Oasis, have married Siwa women, have no arms or influence.

3. That the pay of the present Buluk Bashi and soldiers, viz., 25 liras a-month, be utilized to pay and maintain twelve Soudanese or Muallid soldiers sent from Cairo, with their arms and equipment.

4. That a small fort be built for them, if possible supplied with a gun.

5. That the leaders of the Senussi sect be banished from Siwa.

6. That a certain Mohammed Saïd be appointed Omdeh of Eastern Siwa; he belongs to the Medani sect, and his father was formerly Omdeh.

7. That the Siwa Oasis be attached to the Ghiza Mudiria, as the Kirdasa route is the shortest from the Nile, and that an efficient camel post be at once established.

8. That the Meglis formed under the Khedivial Decree of September 1894 takes all the power out of the hands of the Mamur and puts it in the hands of the natives.

The messenger who last arrived with this Report states that he had great difficulty in leaving, as the Senussites tried to prevent him, but he managed to evade them and arrived in Cairo by the Kirdasa route; he was told by Hassan Effendi to verbally give information of the dangerous state of affairs at Siwa.

Attached is the report of Hassan Effendi, Appendix (D).

As Appendix (E) I have attached a short Report on what is known of the Senussi.

Beni Shangul.—It is reported from the frontier that Wad-el-Guri is trying to induce the Italians to advance into Sennar viâ Gedaref.

Kassala and the Dervishes.

Berber.—No fresh news from here.

Zaki is reported by Suakin to have left Omdurman and is now on his way back to Berber.

Abdulla Wad Sad also returned to Metemma, but Ibrahim Wad Hamza is still in prison at Omdurman. He was replaced by Wad El Agami.

Osman Digna is reported to have returned from Bairam to Adarama, but nothing is yet known of his instructions, as it is not yet known what line of action the Khalifa decided to take in the Council held in the Baïram feast at Omdurman.

A telegram from Suakin, dated the 18th July, 1895, runs as follows:—

"Reported Mahmud Digna intends raiding direction Seterab. Rumours that there is fighting in Bahr-el-Ghazal and Khalifa preparing to send reinforcements."

Abu Hamed and Murrat.—It is reported on the frontier that a party of Dervishes

are waiting at Abu Hamed for the return of the Emirs from Omdurman, in order to cut the telegraph line between Korosko and Murrat.

This telegraph line was interrupted at 9 P.M. on the 3rd July, and restored at 7 A.M. on the 16th July.

A patrol was dispatched to discover the cause, and it states that the interruption hitherto has apparently been due to friction at the point where the wire is fastened to the post.

Dongola and the Frontier.

It has already been stated that Yunis was ordered by the Khalifa to Omdurman on the 25th June. He left El Ordi on the 29th June with about 100 follows. His place as Emir was temporarily taken by Bekhit Nammuri, one of the Taaisha Emirs at Dongola.

It has also been reported that Hammuda has been discharged from Suarda and replaced by another Taaisha Emir, called Saleh-ez-Zubeir; but it is thought possible that Hammuda (his enemy Yunis having been taken away) may be reinstated, but it is hardly possible that Yunis will return, as the natives of Dongola have been complaining for a long time against him, and although the Khalifa does not wish to hear native accusations against his Taaisha Emirs, yet he does not wish the natives near the Egyptian frontier to be discontented.

Osman Azrak is said to be at Omdurman (4th July), and in favour with the Khalifa.

A Dervish patrol of twelve men reached Wadi Atir on or about Wednesday last, the 9th instant, and raided twelve cattle (the property of inhabitants of Sarras) which were grazing there; they passed Akasha on their return journey in the evening of the 10th instant.

The strength of the garrison at Suarda remains practically unchanged. There is a rumour of a projected attack planned by Saleh Zubeir on Gemai.

The successful smuggling of 14 cantars of lead into the Soudan by one Suleiman, of Kenna, and two others, is reported.

Further Dervish patrols as far as Akasha are expected.

The following Appendices are attached :—

(A.) A letter received from Secret Agent No. 1.
(B.) A letter received by Zubair Pasha from a friend at Benghazi, *re* Rabeh.
(C.) Another letter received by Zubair Pasha from the same friend, *re* Rabeh.
(D.) Report of Hassan Effendi Sherif, Mamur of Siwa, &c., against the Senussites in Siwa.
(E.) Notes on the biography of the Senussi.
(F.) Trade Returns, Frontier and Suakin.
* (G.) Staff Diary, Cairo, Frontier, and Suakin.
* (H.) Reserve ammunition return, Frontier.
* (I.) Return of temperature, Cairo, Frontier, and Suakin.
* (J.) Meteorological observations, Cairo.

(Signed) J. G. MAXWELL, *Mir Alai,*
Director, Military Intelligence, p.i.

Appendix (A).

(Translation.)

TO Officer Commanding Frontier Force, Halfa :

I beg to inform you that the Khalifa during last Bairam pardoned Khalifa Sherif who was in prison, and released him and treated him with honour.

I heard that he sent a steamer to bring Mohammed Khaled from Jebel-el-Reggef.

I also heard that the Khalifa has plundered the properties of his brother Yakub, who was his Wakil, and appointed his son Osman Sheikh Ed Din in his place.

I hear that the Khalifa during Bairam summoned all the Amels (Governors), districts, and also those who were on the Italian frontiers. Osman Digna and his Emirs, the Emirs of Berber and Ez Zaki, are all still at Omdurman.

On Tuesday, the 2nd Moharrem, some Emirs sent by the Khalifa to Yunes arrived with an order summoning Yunes. I hear there was nothing written in the order except the following words: "You are disobedient, Yunes, come, come, come." Yunes was very much frightened and at once left for Omdurman on Saturday night, the 29th June, and Bekhit Namuri, one of the

* Not received

Taaisha Emirs, was appointed in his place. Yunes and his slaves were very much annoyed of this.

I will complete my story by a letter which will be sent by a secret agent (giving name), the day after to-morrow.

SECRET AGENT No. 1.

Wednesday, 10*th Moharrem* 1313 (*July* 3, 1895).

Translated:
H. G. FITTON, *Bimbashi.*
Staff Officer, Intelligence Frontier Force.

July 16, 1895.

Appendix (B).

(Translation.)

TO his Excellency Zubair Rahmat Pasha :

After due greetings and respects, I sent you a letter last post, and on the return of the steamer I received no answer. I hope everything goes well.

I write this to inform you that a caravan has just arrived here from Weddai, leaving that country on the 20th Shaban (16th February, 1895), and reports that your man (Rabeh) is in perfect health and peace, and that he has taken possession of all the Kingdom of Bornu, and all the neighbouring Kings have submitted to him and offered him presents.

One of these presents was from the King of Zinder, and was composed of—

1,000 horses.
1,000 blacks.
1,000 rifles.

The caravan party speak good of him (Rabeh), and they praise his government and justice. He follows the Law (Mahommedan), and punishes adultery, theft, and drinking wine by its tenets, and he hates those who smoke.

Security is established throughout his country, so that a traveller passes from one end to the other without being molested by any one, and the village, near which he abides for the night, guard him till morning, and the natives of the village say to him that it is the order of the Emir that we should guard you.

He (Rabeh) has also nominated a Kadi from the Nile people called El Fiki El Medani, and gave him strict orders that he should go by the law, and never accept the intercession of any one except in the right.

Two other caravans are coming; one shall start on El Kida (May 1895), and the other shall start after the Dahia feast-day (4th June, 1895). On their arrival here I shall take down their news and send them to you.

A large force of Dervishes raided on Gimr, Masalit, and Tama, and the Kings of those regions fled away and took refuge in the neighbourhood of Weddai. They asked the help of the King of Weddai, who refused to give it. Indeed, the King of Weddai is afraid of both Rabeh and the Dervishes.

This is the information I have just received, and I shall not fail to inform you in future of all news which would interest you.

Many salaams to Sheikh Medawi.

(Signed) SALEM El MUTAWI.

29 *El Kida*, 1312 (*June* 23, 1895).

Appendix (C).

(Literal Translation.)

TO his Excellency Zubair Rahmat Pasha.

After due salaams and respects, I beg to inform you that I have already sent you a letter, dated the 23rd June, 1895, which is not necessary to repeat here. But yesterday a steamer arrived here from Tripoli and brought a letter from one of the merchants there to another of the Magabra here, informing him that a messenger had come from Tebbo and told him that Rabeh had taken possession of Borno's kingdom, and that (all the natives emigrated to him), after the murder of Abkiari, the nephew of Sultan Hashem, about whom we have informed you before.

Some of the Kanemi family were killed also, and the Kanemi, after the murder of the above-mentioned and the dispersal of the rest, disappeared for some time, and then he took his children and wives and went to Rabeh. He also took with him the Ulamas (learned men) and begged Rabeh most humbly to pardon him, and Rabeh pardoned him.

All the Kingdom of Borno is now in a perfect rest and peace, and the merchants as well. These are the contents of the said letter.

On the arrival of this letter the Magabra merchants here have consulted with each other to open a road to Bornu, but they are afraid that Es Said-el-Mahdi may not advise them to do so.

Two of the Darfur natives left to Egypt by the preceding steamer. They have some

knowledge of the news about Rabeh in his early conquests, but they do not know anything of his latter news.

This is all we know about Rabeh, and will not fail to inform you of what occurs in future.

Salaams to Sheikh Medawi and all your family.

(Signed) SALEM MOHAMMED EL MUTAWI.

Benghazi, 3 *Moharram*, 1313 (*June* 26, 1895).

Appendix (D).

(Translation.) *Siwa, July* 7, 1895.

Director of Military Intelligence,

WE have the honour to lay before your kind notice that the Senussists in Siwa have revolted against us, and displayed enmity to us.

1. They refused to pay the Government taxes.

2. They joined together, carrying their fire-arms and warlike equipments against the Government, and are ready to oppose any force that may be sent against them, believing that their master, "the Mahdi Es Senussi," is the expected Mahdi, *i.e.*, the Mahdi of the end of time, who did not leave Jeghbub but to conquer the world, by enraging and exhorting the religious Chiefs and leaders who are residing in the zawias of their master the Senussi in Siwa, Zeitun, and other places.

In consequence of this we are now placed in a dangerous position, and are afraid of their treachery to us and to the Government's treasury.

You are well aware that we have no forces to oppose the attacks of these rebels, but have only four soldiers, who have neither arms nor even sticks in their hands.

We were, therefore, obliged to call upon Sheikh Saleh Said Abu Zara, the representative of his brother Sheikh Mohammed Said Abu Zara, the Omda of Eastern Siwa, who is now in Cairo, and ask him to watch over us and over the Government's treasury by the help of his men, viz., by men of the Medani order and others who are still loyal to the Government.

Sheikh Saleh replied to our request, and supplied us with a sufficient number of guards until our case is submitted to the proper authority.

Therefore we are obliged to inform you about these facts, begging that you will kindly relieve us by sending a sufficient force to crush these rebels, to stop their hostilities, which grow more serious, to check the extension of the Senussi revolt, and to give no chance to the increase of the number of rebels by their being joined by the Bedouins, as it appears to us now.

Or else we beg that you will kindly direct us to do what you may deem proper, as we are in a dangerous position, which will likely become worse in case of delay. Besides, we are afraid that the Medani natives who are guarding us will get tired of doing so, or that they will be overcome by the rebels.

Similar petitions were submitted by us to his Excellency the Minister of Interior, his Excellency the Sirdar, and to the Mudir of El Behera.

We have, &c.

(Signed) HASSAN EFFENDI SHERIF, *Mamur of Siwa.*
MOHAMMED ABD-EL-MUTAL, *Kadi of Siwa.*
RUFAIL MINA, *Kateb and Sarraf.*
HUSEIN OSMAN, *Moawin of the Mamuria.*
HUSEIN FADLI, *Bulukbashi.*
AHMED RUSHDI, *a soldier.*
HUSEIN SULEIMAN, *a soldier.*
ALI HASSAN, *a soldier.*
KUBRUSLI ES SAYED, *a soldier.*
MOHAMMED AHMED, *Kateb of the Mahkama.*
ISKANDER MIKHAIL, *Kateb Sani.*
MOHAMMED SHAFII, *Muhder of the Mahkama Sharia.*
SHEIKH SALEH SAID.
" MOHAMMED MANSUR, *Omda of Western Siwa.*
" MOHAMMED HAIDER.
" ABD-EL-HADI HADI.
" AHMED HAMZA.
" AHMED IDO.
" AHMED SAMI.

Appendix (E).

THE Istaz-es-Senussi, the father of the present Es Senussi, was regarded in his lifetime as a learned, remarkable man, with a perfect knowledge of his religion; his full name was Es Sayed Mohammed Ibn Ali-es-Senussi, and he was the son of El Hassan-el-Muthenna Ibn-el-Imam-el-Hassan, a descendant of the Holy Prophet.

He was born in the year 1204 or 1205 H., in the desert of Mustaghanem in Algiers. He was educated at Fas, and studied the Darkawia Tarika. He afterwards went to Mecca, where he met the well-known Istaz Ahmed Ibn Idris, and completed his studies under his guidance. After this he posed as a sort of a weli. He built a zawia on Jebel Abu Kubeis, and from here proceeded to Jebel-el-Akhdar in Tripoli; this was in 1255 H.

Here he built many zawias, and in due course two sons were born to him, named Es Sayed Mohammed-el-Mahdi in 1261 H., and Es Sayed Mohammed Sherif in 1263 H.

In this year he returned to Mecca and lived at his zawia at Jebel Abu Kubeis for about seven years, occupied in reading El Hadite and Mohammedan law. His fame now began to spread far and wide, and people flocked to him to acquire knowledge.

Then he left this place intending to return to Jebel-el-Akhdar, but on his way back Abbas Pasha, the Governor of Egypt, heard of his journey and built for him a zawia outside Cairo at Sheikh-el-Kolali, near Bab-el-Hadid, but the Senussi did not wish to stay there. He resided at Kirdasa, in Giza, where people hurried to visit him and ask for his blessing.

He then continued his journey to Jebel-el-Akhdar and lived in a place known by the name of El Ghuzeiyat, an ancient castle, which he repaired and gave the name of Uzeiyet. He lived there for about two years, during which he sent some of his disciples to a place in the desert, ten days from Uzeiyat and three days from Siwa, called Jaghbub.

Here they built a zawia for him, and he transferred to it in the year 1273 H. He lived in Jaghbub until his death. During his stay at this zawia he spent his time in preaching and in spreading science and his Tarika. Many nomadic Arabs were benefited with his teachings, their state was reformed, and piety and science were spread among them. He died on the 9th of Safar, 1276 H.

He wrote several books, among which are—

1. "Ikas El wasnan fil amal Bis Sinnat Wel Koran" ("The Awakening of the Sleepy to act after the Law and Koran").

2. "Es Salsabil-el-Muin fil Taraik-el-Arbain" ("The Nourishing Sweet Milk in the 40 Tarikas").

3. "El Manhal er Raik fil assanid Wat Taraik" ("The Clear Spring in the Attributions and Tarikas").

4. "Esh Shumus Esh Sharika fi asma Mashayekh-el-Maghariba wel Masharika" ("The Shining Suns in the names of the Western and Oriental Sheikhs").

He was succeeded in his religious career and in spreading science and education among the people by his son Mohammed-el-Mahdi Es Senussi. His brother Mohammed Sherif and a party of students and Sheikhs live with him in the zawia.

He has also many other zawia in different places prepared for worship and teaching the Koran. These zawias are also as houses of hospitality for passengers. The zawia at Siwa is one of them. In this zawia the Senussi possesses a great many olive and palm trees which His Highness the Khedive exempted from taxes.

Appendix (F).

RETURN of Trade imported to the Soudan from Suakin.

Place.	Date.		No. of merchants.	No. of persons accompanying caravan.	No. of loads.	Value in £ E.	Remarks.
	From.	To.					
Suakin ..	1895. 13th June ..	1895. 6th July ..	61	64	196	2,645	

RETURN of Trade exported from the Soudan to Suakin.

Place.	Date.		No. of merchants.	No. of persons accompanying caravan.	Gum.		Ostrich feathers.		Ivory in £ E.	Various—£ E.	Total—£ E.	Remarks.
	From.	To.			In loads.	Value in £ E.	In lbs.	Value in £ E.				
Suakin	1895. 8th June	1895. 6th July..	67	74	947	7,940	425	850	..	49	8,839	

RETURN of Trade exported from the Soudan from the Frontier.

Place.	Date.		No. of merchants.	No. of persons accompanying caravan.	Gum.		Ostrich feathers.		Ivory in £ E.	Various—£ E.	Total—£ E.	Remarks.
	From.	To.			In loads.	Value in £ E.	In lbs.	Value in £ E.				
Assuan.. ..	1895. 4th June	1895. 11th July	32	51	158	3,035	..	..	..	..	3,035	

RETURN of Trade imported to the Soudan from the Frontier.

Place.	Date.		No. of merchants.	No. of persons accompanying caravan.	No. of loads.	Value in £ E.	Remarks.
	From.	To.					
Assuan ..	1895. 4th June ..	1895. 7th July ..	28	146	..	1,955	

J. G. MAXWELL, *Miralai,*
Director of Military Intelligence.

Cairo, July 21, 1895.

No. 13.

Mr. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 12.)

(No. 100.) *Cairo, August* 3, 1895.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that a further case of assault on an Englishman has occurred, happily not attended with any serious consequences, but under circumstances which will necessarily attract a good deal of public attention.

For the present, I will confine myself to briefly stating the facts of the case.

His Highness the Khedive has a property in the neighbourhood of Aboukir. The majority of the land surrounding it is held by the Aboukir Land Company, an English Association. By their arrangement with the Public Works Department the Company has a sluice-gate on the public canal, through which they are allowed to draw a specified amount of water, which they control and supply to all their tenants. The Khedive holds a small quantity of land from the Company, and is for that amount entitled to be supplied with water. But the Company as a favour further supply His Highness gratuitously with water for his gardens at Montazah.

Some days ago a band of men came down in the evening to the Company's main, which was closed for repairs to their canal, and forced the attendant in charge to turn the water on, stating that it was for the Khedive's gardens. They then went all along the line obliging the various holders of the Company to close their private heads so that the full force of water might arrive at Montazah, stating in each case that a superior order had been issued to this effect. The native proprietors submitted, but in the case of certain British subjects they or their employés declined to close their heads without an order from the proper authorites to do so. The native servant of an English gentleman was accordingly seized by four men, and was being taken to Montazah by force, when he was seen by an Englishman who undertook to be responsible for his appearance if he had done anything wrong. Early in the morning one of the band appeared on the property of the Aboukir Dairy Produce Agency, and ordered the head there to be closed. As this was not done, failing the production of any authority for the order, he went away and presently came back with some eight other men and an individual riding on a mule, said to be the Khedive's "kholy" or bailiff; they proceeded to turn off the water supply, and on the arrival of Gibb, the Manager of the Agency, they fell upon him violently, throwing him down and tearing his clothes, while the man said to be the Khedive's

"kholy" struck him in the face, using most abusive language, and also struck with a stick the only one of his assistants who endeavoured to rescue him. His wife, who came running up also, had her clothes torn in the scuffle.

Not far from the scene of the aggression there is a camp of the Connaught Rangers, and a boy in Mr. Gibb's service ran off thither to procure assistance. Seeing the soldiers coming up at a run the natives then decamped in haste.

Of the nine aggressors, five, including the head man or "kholy," have been identified by Mr. Gibb and his servants, who stated they dared not interfere, as these were the Khedive's servants. They have also been identified as the same persons who, on the previous night, turned on the water at the main by force, and ordered the closing of the private heads.

These men have been committed for trial for the assault and trespass, and the case is now being prepared by the Parquet. No defence has been set up, but all the accused denied the charge, and stated that they had never left their work on the day the offence was committed. It has also been attempted to establish that they are not the Khedive's men, on the plea that they are not receiving pay from His Highness.

The depositions, however, taken down in the presence of an official from Her Majesty's Consulate at the preliminary examination, seem to prove conclusively that they are in His Highness' employ, and the "kholy" is well known to many of the witnesses, who have deposed to the use of the Khedive's name by the accused to cover their illegal action.

The case will be carefully watched by Her Majesty's Consulate, and if the result of the trial at First Instance be not satisfactory, I may have to submit, for your Lordship's consideration, whether a Crown lawyer should not be appointed to plead the case on appeal.

The Aboukir Company also intend to bring a civil action for damages done to the works in their canal by letting in the full force of water, unless those responsible offer to compromise the matter by making good all loss.

It is also possible that the Irrigation Department will take action on account of the waste of water.

I have spoken to the Minister of Justice, in the absence of the Judicial Adviser, and earnestly impressed upon him the necessity of having the case carefully watched; and I have suggested unofficially to Boutros Pasha, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, that, while I have no intention of interfering myself to press the claim of the Company so long as they have their remedy at law, it might be worth his while to approach privately whoever may be responsible, with a view to the avoidance of a public scandal by satisfactory compensation to the Company for the damage done by these individuals, who, in the Khedive's absence, have asserted his authority in support of their most illegal proceedings.

The whole story is only one more illustration of the growing spirit of hostility to Europeans among the natives, whose fanaticism is perpetually stimulated by the French and native press in Egypt, and by the encouragement they receive from high quarters, and it affords an instructive revelation of the methods which would be employed if the present control were taken away.

I fear this statement is far from complete, as it is written in great haste to catch the outgoing mail; but I shall not fail to send your Lordship full particulars as to the trial as soon as it comes before the Tribunals.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RENNELL RODD.

No. 14.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Mr. Rodd.

(No. 120.) *Foreign Office, August* 12, 1895.

Sir,

I HAVE received your despatch No. 97 of the 25th ultimo, reporting that a funeral party of the East Yorkshire Regiment, on leaving the Roman Catholic Cemetery at Cairo, were followed by a crowd of natives hooting and throwing stones, and I approve the action taken by you with a view to obtain an apology from the local authorities.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 15.

Mr. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 22.)

(No. 103.)

Cairo, August 9, 1895.

My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 98 of the 31st ultimo, I have the honour to report that the Tribunal of First Instance has condemned four of the men charged with creating a disturbance by hooting and throwing stones at a funeral party of the East Yorkshire Regiment in Cairo to one year's imprisonment with a fine of 100 piastres, while two others have been sentenced to six months' imprisonment with a fine of 34 piastres.

These sentences, which are of extreme severity, will probably be reduced by the Court of Appeal.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RENNELL RODD.

No. 16.

Mr. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 26.)

(No. 105.)

Cairo, August 17, 1895.

My Lord,

CONSIDERABLE attention has been attracted here by the publication in the native press of a letter from the Khalifa at Omdurman to Zobehr Pasha, in answer to a letter sent by him a long while ago.

I am expecting a report on the subject from the Intelligence Department of the Egyptian War Office, but, in the meantime, I have the honour to inclose the translation which has been given in the European press here.

It appears that this letter, which is dated as long ago as September 1893, was intercepted on its way, correspondence with the Soudan being contraband, and kept at Suakim. It was eventually sent up to Cairo and communicated to Zobehr, who, without any evil motive, gave a copy of it to the journal "El Moayad."

A certain amount of capital has been made by the native press out of the implication that the presence of Europeans in Egypt is the real bar to reconciliation with the revolted provinces, and the French press has, of course, substituted "English" for "Europeans," and pointed the appropriate moral.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RENNELL RODD.

Inclosure in No. 16.

Newspaper Extract.

Omdurman, 11 *Rabi-Aoual*, 1311 (22 *Septembre*, 1893).

GRACES à Dieu! le Maître Généreux.—Prières à notre Seigneur Mohamed et les siens.—Salut!

De la part de l'esclave de son Dieu, du Khalife du Mahdi.—Saluts sur lui!—Le Khalife Abdallah, fils de Mohamed, le Khalife El Saddik.

A El Zobeir Râhmât Pacha, au Caire.—Que Dieu le guide dans le vrai chemin!—Ainsi-soit-il!

Je vous salue et vous informe que la lettre que vous m'avez adressée le 5 Zileggué, 1310 (30 Juin, 1893) m'est parvenue.

Cette lettre m'a apporté vos vifs remerciements et renferme l'expression du contentement de votre cœur à la suite de ce que votre fils El-Amine Abdallah et votre dévoué Kassamallah vous ont appris relativement aux soins et attentions que je ne cesse d'avoir pour vos enfants et ceux de vos parents qui habitent ici. Vous insistez notamment sur votre reconnaissance pour la dot que j'ai donnée à l'occasion du mariage de vos filles avec leurs cousins, ce qui a augmenté votre joie.

Tout cela a contribué à vous munir de la part du Sirdar de l'armée Égyptienne que

vous avez instruit de ces bienfaits, de l'autorisation de correspondre avec moi, et, avec sa permission, vous m'avez écrit cette lettre de remerciements.

Vous y mentionnez que vous êtes disposé à me rendre des services au Caire et tout particulièrement, que vous êtes prêt à servir d'intermédiaire pour fortifier les liens d'amitié entre moi et le Gouvernement Égyptien.

Vous me recommandez vos enfants et tous vos parents qui se trouvent ici tant que vous serez retenu au Caire sous les ordres du Gouvernement Khédivial et vous me demandez une réponse sur cet exposé.

Tout cela je l'ai compris en détails et je vous réponds:

Quant aux soins et aux honneurs que je prodigue à vos parents qui sont ici, c'est réel, attendu que je les considère comme mes propres enfants et protégés, la plupart d'entre eux sont pour moi des amis vénérables et d'utile conseil; je les traite avec bienveillance, et les entoure d'honneurs, de respect, et de considération parce qu'ils sont fermes dans leurs croyances et qu'ils pratiquent la religion avec ferveur. Ils sont tous prêts à affermir la foi du Prophète élu—prières sur lui!

Mais sachez que les attentions et les honneurs dont ils sont l'objet de ma part sont plutôt un hommage à leurs vertus que la considération que ce sont vos enfants relevant de votre autorité.

En ce qui concerne vos fils et vos autres parents actuellement nos hôtes, vous pouvez compter que nous leur continuerons toujours notre amitié et notre protection. Ils sont, du reste, nos hommes de confiance et nous sommes persuadés qu'en cas de guerre avec nos ennemis, chacun d'eux se conduirait comme un lion et combattrait jusqu'à la mort pour la liberté et l'Islam.

Quant à la proposition que vous nous faites d'intervenir entre nous et le Gouvernement Égyptien, nous sommes tout disposé à considérer pareille éventualité, à la condition que le Gouvernement Khédivial revienne à la vraie foi de l'Islam, de Dieu et de son Prophète, reconnaisse le Mahdisme tout en chassant les infidèles et en tuant tous ceux qui ne se feraient pas Musulmans dans tout le territoire Égyptien.

Qu'on comprenne bien cela et qu'on agisse en conséquence en reconnaissant seules les lois de l'Islam et la voie du Mahdisme et en s'adressant à nous dans ce sens.

Dans ces conditions, nous accepterions votre entremise et nous considérerions les Égyptiens comme nos frères. Sans cela, il ne saurait exister aucun lien entre nous. Bien au contraire, il ne pourrait y avoir entre nous que haines, guerres, coups d'épées et de longues lances jusqu'à ce qu'ils se soumettent à l'ordre de Dieu ou qu'ils meurent jusqu'au dernier par la puissance Divine, ce qui doit inévitablement arriver, s'ils persistent dans leur erreur.

Nous sommes très surpris de la valeur que vous attribuez à ce Gouvernement couvert de honte et d'erreurs, et que vous écoutiez les conseils de ces damnés infidèles qui tiennent les Musulmans sous le joug dans leur sang et leurs biens. Si c'était un vrai Gouvernement Musulman, avec du zèle pour la religion, il ne tolérerait pas les infidèles et ne se serait pas servi des ennemis de Dieu, de son Prophète, et de l'Islam pour en faire des maîtres qui ont asservi les vrais croyants.

Ce Gouvernement s'est fait de plus aider par ces infidèles pour combattre l'Islam en ne prenant en aucune considération la parole de Dieu—que son nom soit béni!

"Celui d'entre vous qui les gouverne est leur partisan."

Et cette autre parole de Dieu:

"Il n'y a pas un peuple croyant en Dieu qui, au dernier jour (Résurrection) puisse aimer celui qui ne se conduit pas dans la voie de Dieu et de son Prophète."

Si ce Gouvernement avait seulement le sentiment de la reconnaissance et s'il n'était pas entaché d'hypocrisie, il n'aurait pas continué à vous traiter avec tant de rigueur jusqu'à ce jour, en vous retenant éloigné de vos enfants et de votre patrie dout vous êtes séparé depuis si longtemps, vous qui l'avez aidé à conquérir tout le Darfour, que, sans vous, il n'aurait jamais possédé, malgré tout le désir qu'il avait d'y pénétrer depuis de longues années.

En récompense de vos généreux efforts, de vos bienfaits et de l'assistance que vous lui avez prêtée pour conquérir cet immense territoire, il vous a emprisonné, exilé de votre patrie, et séparé de votre famille.

Par surcroît de cruauté, il vous a torturé le cœur et fait souffrir les peines les plus atroces en faisant assassiner votre fils ainsi que les chefs, vos parents, qui se trouvaient à ses côtés.

Si ce Gouvernement avait pour vous les sentiments d'amitié que vous lui supposez, il aurait dû vous en donner depuis longtemps des preuves palpables.

Ayant compris tout cela et sachant bien qu'il s'agit surtout d'une question de religion dont le but est le vrai chemin de vérité et la condamnation de la mauvaise voie par

l'anéantissement des infidèles, lequel but doit être propagé afin qu'avec la volonté de Dieu tous ceux qui tenteront de la combattre soient détruits par la puissance Divine.

Ne recommencez donc plus à nous écrire dans ce sens, car il ne peut y avoir entre nous et les ennemis de notre religion que des épées affilées et de longues lances perçantes.

Nous ne pouvons compter et nous n'avons de force qu'avec l'aide de Dieu, le grand et le puissant, qui est notre meilleur soutien.

(Cachet) ABDALLAH-EL-TAÈCHE.

(Exergue : Dieu est notre protecteur et le meilleur des soutiens.)

Omdurman, 11 *Rabi-Aoual*, 1311.

No. 17.

Mr. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 26.)

(No. 108.) *Cairo, August* 17, 1895.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to report, with reference to my despatch No. 100 of the 3rd instant, that the trial of five natives charged with assaulting Mr. Gibb, the English Manager of the Dairy Produce Agency at Aboukir, under the circumstances already described, took place before the Native Tribunal at Alexandria on the 13th and 15th instant, and has resulted in a sentence of three months' imprisonment being passed on all the accused.

The other three assailants were not identified by Mr. Gibb or his witnesses.

In accordance with the procedure in force in the Court of First Instance, Mr. Gibb could not be represented by counsel, but the case was prepared by the Parquet and put by the Procureur-Général. The proceedings were watched by an official from Her Britannic Majesty's Consulate-General at Alexandria.

It was maintained that the accused were not actually in the employ of the Khedive, but were men who had solicited to be allowed to work on the estate in the hope of being employed in the future, but so far as I am aware, no attempt was made to elicit under whose directions they were acting. The case was, however, watched by many members of the Khedivial establishment, and no one entertains the slightest doubt that the men were for all practical purposes the Khedive's people, which is also proved, were further proof necessary, by the fact that the Manager of the estate is now in treaty with the Aboukir Land Company, with a view to offering compensation for the damage done by these men to their canal, and thus avoiding the threatened civil action.

The interpreter provided by the Court on the first day's hearing was by no means up to his work, and I was consequently obliged to address a remonstrance to the Ministry, which had the result that an efficient interpreter was provided the second day and such portions of the evidence as had been inadequately translated were taken over again.

Otherwise, I am informed by the English official who watched the case on behalf of the Ministry of the Interior, the trial generally was carried out in a satisfactory manner.

Practically no defence was offered, and the witnesses for the accused who were to have proved an *alibi*, were not produced.

The Procureur-Général asked for the punishment of the accused under the terms of the Decree of the 18th April, 1895, making the minimum penalty one of three years' imprisonment, the text of which I have the honour to inclose herewith.

The Judge declined to apply the provisions of this Decree on the grounds that there was no evidence of premeditation, although it appears open to some argument how far the words "agissant de commun accord dans le but de commettre des voies de fait" can be interpreted as necessarily involving premeditation.

They were accordingly sentenced under an Article of the Code which provides for offences of this nature where premeditation is not proved, terms of imprisonment from one week to one year in duration.

In my opinion this punishment is too light as regards the principal offender, namely, the head man who gave orders for the assault, but probably adequate in the case of the others, who only carried out his instructions.

The Parquet has meanwhile, under orders from the Procureur-Général, appealed to the Higher Court for increase of sentence, and I am informed that the accused have also appealed for mitigation of punishment.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RENNELL RODD.

No. 16*.

Mr. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 26.)

(No. 106.) *Cairo, August* 17, 1895.

My Lord,

WITH reference to Lord Cromer's despatch No. 84 of the 29th June, forwarding the Convention signed by the Italian and Egyptian Representatives for the delimitation of the frontier between the Baraka and the Red Sea, I have the honour to report that the officers appointed by the respective parties have not succeeded in coming to terms on the spot with regard to the delineation contemplated in Article I, but have been unable to agree as to which sphere the plateau of Hagar Nush, one of the fixed points, should be assigned to, or as to the line which should be adopted between that plateau and the fixed point on the Baraka.

The question has been referred to Cairo, and is now forming the subject of discussion between the Italian Chargé d'Affaires, the Egyptian War Office, and myself.

The points at issue are, however, of minor importance, and as the matter has been approached in the most friendly way, I have no doubt that with a little mutual concession a satisfactory arrangement can be arrived at here.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RENNELL RODD.

Inclosure in No. 17.

Decree dated April 18, 1895.

LORSQUE les blessures ou les coups prévus par les Articles 219 et 220 auront été portés aux moyens d'armes, bâtons, ou d'instruments quelconques par un ou plusieurs individus faisant partié d'une bande, ou d'un rassemblement composé d'au moins de cinq personnes agissant de commun accord dans le but de commettre des voies de fait, le minimum de la peine sera porté à trois ans.

No. 18.

Mr. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 4.)

(No. 111.)

Cairo, August 24, 1895.

My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 105 of the 17th instant, I have now the honour to transmit a translation which has been made at the Egyptian War Office of the letter addressed by the Khalifa to Zobeir Pasha.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RENNELL RODD.

Inclosure in No. 18.

Letter addressed by the Khalifa to Zobeir Pasha.

(Translation.)

IN the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate. Praise be to God, the Great Ruler, and prayers be unto our Lord Mahommed and his family (with salutations).

From the servant of his Lord, the Khalifa of the Mahdi, the Khalifa Abdullah Ibn Mahommed, the Khalifate of the Siddik (Righteous), to Ez Zubair Rahmat Pasha, in Cairo.

I inform you that your letter, dated 15 El Hegga, was received, and I have taken note of your thankfulness and the pleasure of your heart for what you were told by your honest son Abdulla and your servant Kassam Alla about our care and patronage to your children and their families here, especially as to the marriage of your daughters to your relatives, and the payment of their dowries from my own pocket.

You say that this pleased you so much that you were led to solicit a permission from the Sirdar of the Egyptian army to correspond with us, and you informed him of our liberality to your children and families, and that it was with his permission you sent me this letter thanking me for what I have done for you, and telling me that you are ready to be of service to me in Egypt, and to be the intermediary in establishing friendly relations between us and the Egyptian Government. You also charge me with your children and families and all your relations here for as long as you are absent in Egypt under the orders of the Khedivial Government, and you ask me to reply to all the details of your letter.

We now inform you that as regards your children and relatives here, it is true that we treat them with all attention and care, as we consider them our children, and men of the true "ansar," and we look on them with an eye of pity, kindness, and satisfaction. They are determined, and true to their religion, and support it with pure hearts and true intentions, and are prepared to give up their souls in confirmation of the Law of Mahommed (prayers and salutations unto him) in obedience to our order.

Our attentions and kindness to them are therefore based on this, and not because they are your children and relatives, for you are not in a position to ask us for your sake to treat them kindly. Were they to meet you in the field they would fight you, and you will not escape from them unless you follow in the way they follow or fly from the field.

And this is the right course that all believers of the Mahdi and the Moslem faith should follow, and therefore we continue to treat them kindly, not considering their relationship to you.

As regards your saying you are ready to be the medium in establishing friendly

relations between us and the Egyptian Government, I say that if they submit and obey the orders of God and His Prophet, and embrace Mahdiism; if they separate themselves from infidels and kill every one in Egypt who will not embrace Islamism; after this has been done, and they have accepted the uniform of the Mahdi and adopted Moslem law to adjust the affairs of men, if, after all this, they write to us expressing their full submission to our orders, then we will accept your intercession between us and them, and they will have what we have and suffer what we suffer. But until this is done we do not wish to have any communication with them. There can be nothing between us except fighting with sharp swords and long spears until they submit to the orders of God or perish to the last man by the power of God, which result is inevitable in God's own time so long as they continue to disobey. But regarding your saying that you are under the orders of the Egyptian Government, I must say I cannot understand how you can be thus, and represent a Government which is in disgrace and error, following the orders of cursed infidels, and giving them authority to rule over the blood and property of Moslems. If the Government were Islamic, and had religious animation and zeal for Islam, it would not have accepted this and make the enemies of God and His Prophet the enemies of Islam and Moslems, Governors over them and rejected true believers; nor yet would they have asked their assistance against an Islam party, for they know what God says: "He who rules over them must be of them," &c., and "You will not find any people who believe in God and in the last day love those who turn away from God and His Prophet," &c.

If that Government were resolute, faithful, and sincere, and devoid of deceit and perfidy, it would not have continued to ill-treat you up to the present time, and prevent you from seeing your children and country for such a long time. You assisted it in the conquest of Darfur. Had it not been for you the Government would not have thought of taking it, although it aspired to it for some time before. It rewarded your kindness and assistance in procuring for them that vast country by imprisonment and separation from your relatives, murdering your son and the Chiefs amongst your relations who were with him. If this Government really had a true friendship and a spark of gratitude towards you, it would not have done this to you.

After you have understood the above, and as you are well aware, we are supporting a religious principle and in which we have no other intention than the upholding of the evident truth and effacing wrong, and the extermination of all infidels, which intention is strongly supported and upheld by us and must be adopted by all, and this will bring destruction by the Will of God on all who oppose us.

Therefore do not correspond with us again on this subject. There is nothing between us and those who turn away from the faith but sharp swords and long spears. There is neither might nor power except with God the Most High, the Great, and God is our sufficiency and excellent guide. Peace.

(Signed)

["God is our excellent sufficiency and guide."]

No. 19.

Mr. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 11.)

(No. 114.)

Cairo, September 3, 1895.

My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 106 of the 17th ultimo, and to previous correspondence, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a map, which has been prepared by the Intelligence Department of the Egyptian War Office, illustrating the negotiations for the delimitation of the frontier between the Egyptian and Italian territory on the Red Sea.

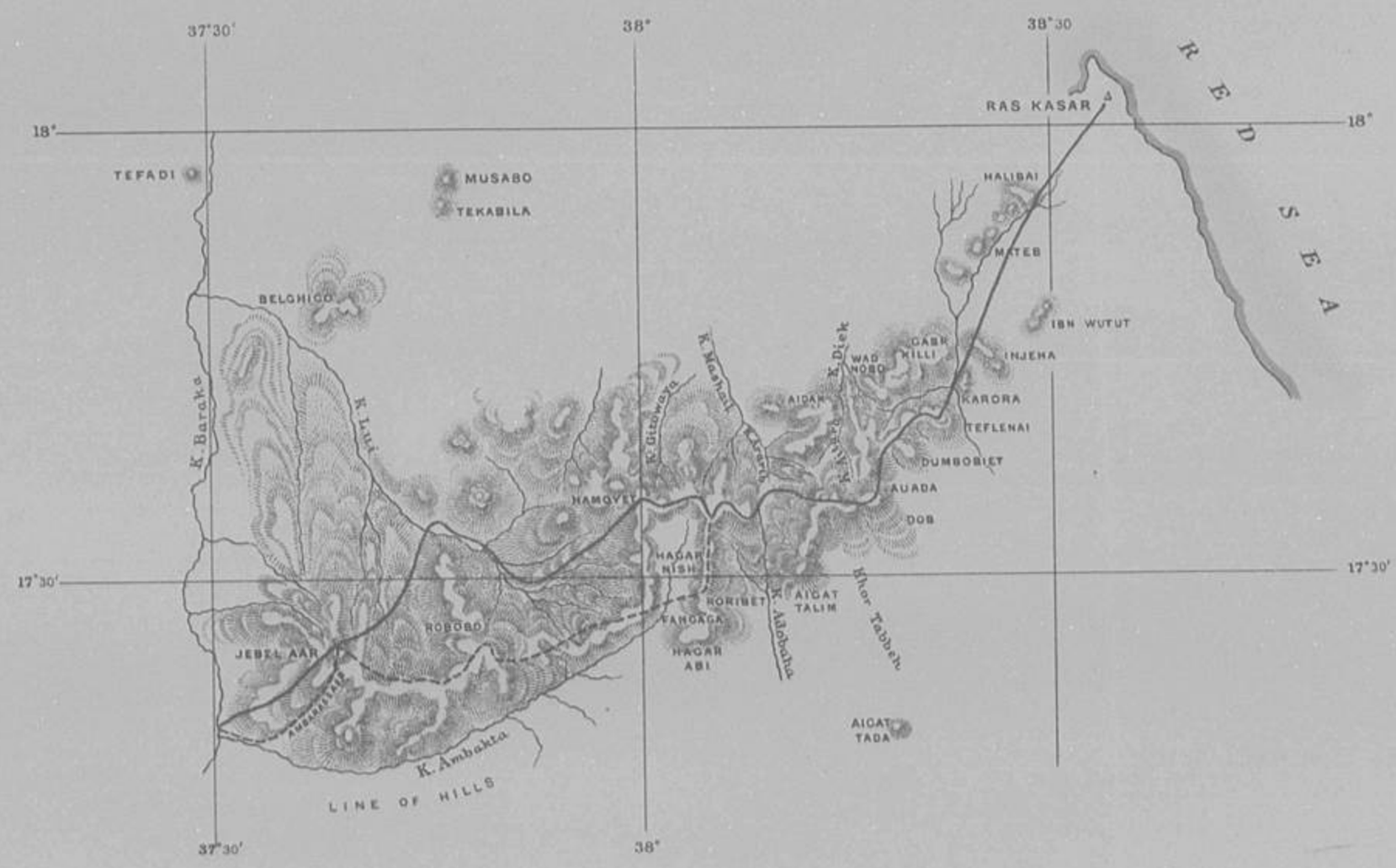
Your Lordship will remember that in the Agreement signed by Sir H. Kitchener and General Baratieri, copy of which was forwarded to your Lordship in Lord Cromer's despatch No. 84 of the 29th June, the line of demarcation was laid down as far as a point marked "Karora" in the maps, on the Karora torrent, from thence to the plateau of Hagar Nish, and from Hagar Nish to the Baraka, the actual line was to be left to officers appointed to conclude the delineation on the spot.

The present state of these negotiations is as follows:—

The delineators, Captain Walter and Lieutenant Miani, found no difficulty in estab-

Inclosure in Mr. Rodd's despatch No. 114 of Sept. 3rd 1895.

In connection with the delimitation of the Italian Egyptian Frontier.



Scale $\frac{1}{1.000.000}$ or 1 Inch 15·782 Miles

10 5 0 10 20 30 Miles

Frontier Line agreed to ———

.. .. proposed by Capt. Walter - - - - -

.. .. Lieut Miani ———

Copied from a reduction of a Map
by W. F. Walter
Bimbashi - Egyptian Army.

The upper part of the Aiet is called Aitara
Khor Ararib is called by Arabs Khor Merib
The Lui and the Afta appear to be the same.

I.D.W.O. No. 1115.

Litho^d at the I.D.W.O. Oct. 1895.

lishing a natural boundary between Karora and a point on the heights inclosing the plateau of Hagar Nish. Beyond this point they were unable to agree, and their divergent views were referred here for further consideration.

Captain Walter insisted on the retention of the Hagar Nish plateau by Egypt on the ground that it is the camping station of numerous Arabs who find a limited pasturage in the barren mountains to the north, and who are dependent on the more fertile plateau for water and sustenance. It would, he maintained, lead to endless difficulties if each time they came down from the mountains to the plateau, which is so intimately connected with them, they were obliged to go through the form of obtaining permission and paying pasturage dues. On the other hand, he maintained that the Arabs on the Italian side are not in the habit of using the Hagar Nish plateau, because they have a plentiful water supply among the mountains further south, whereas the value of the mountain district to the north depends wholly on its accessibility to the plateau. He proposed, therefore, to take the line round the heights so as to include Hagar Nish in the Egyptian sphere, and thence to follow the watershed between the River Ambakta and the streams flowing into the Baraka to the point on the Baraka (17° 18′ 50″) to which they are both agreed as the most suitable according to the spirit of their instructions.

Lieutenant Miani objected to this proposal on the ground that the whole delimitation would fall too far south of the old ideal line laid down in 1891, roughly drawn between Ras Kasar and the Baraka without any knowledge of the configuration of the intervening country. He drew his line along the northern ridge bounding the Hagar Nish plateau, thus claiming it for Italy, and proposed from thence to follow the line of certain streams and watercourses in a direction coinciding as nearly as possible with the direction of the old ideal line.

The Egyptian War Office, after a careful consideration of the whole question, and of such information as is obtainable of the tribal distribution in those parts, are prepared to accept Lieutenant Miani's line after Hagar Nish, provided that it is diverted so as to include the whole of that plateau in the Egyptian sphere.

In discussing this proposal with the Italian Chargé d'Affaires I pointed out that the ideal line could not fairly be appealed to as bearing on the question, for the Agreement signed by General Baratieri and Sir H. Kitchener had superseded it, and this Agreement laid down three fixed points: Karora, a point on the Hagar Nish, and the Baraka. The first and the last were settled definitely, the delineators had agreed as to the line between Karora and Hagar Nish; from Hagar to the point on the Baraka Captain Walter's line was decidedly the straightest and geographically the best defined. The Egyptian War Office were, however, willing to concede all the intervening land up to Lieutenant Miani's line, provided the Italian authorities would make the counter-concession of the Hagar Nish plateau to Egypt, a concession warranted by the grounds of expediency and the traditional custom of occupancy.

The Marquess Salvago Raggi readily agreed to the theory that the ideal line could no longer be appealed to, and promised to do his best to secure the consent of his Government to the proposal made here for a solution of the question by the mutual concession I have indicated.

I am sending a copy of this despatch to Rome.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RENNELL RODD.

Inclosure in No. 19.

Map illustrating the Negotiations for the Delimitation of the Frontier between the Egyptian and Italian Territory on the Red Sea.

No. 20.

Sir P. Currie to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 13.)

(No. 421.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Constantinople, September* 13, 1895, 7·30 P.M.

I HAVE to-day sent the following confidential telegram to Mr. Rodd:—

"The Khedive left here yesterday for a cruise, as he said, among the islands of the Ægean, but it is thought here that he will soon return to Egypt.

"He is furious with the Sultan for adopting the opinion of the jurisconsults that Thasos should be divided among all the descendants and collaterals of Ismaïl, and for refusing to allow him to take possession of the island."

No. 21.

Mr. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 14.)

(No. 116. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Cairo, September 5, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith the August Diary of the Egyptian Intelligence Department, which describes the circumstances under which the letter from the Khalifa to Zobeir Pasha reached its destination, and contains corroborative information respecting the rumoured fighting between the Dervishes and Europeans in Bahr-el-Jebel and Bahr-el-Ghazal.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RENNELL RODD.

Inclosure in No. 21.

INTELLIGENCE REPORT, EGYPT: JULY 1895.

Summary of News contained in Cairo, Suakin, and Frontier Intelligence Diaries.

Cairo Diary from July 19 to August 19; Frontier Diaries from July 16 to August 19 (and telegraphic information to August 19); Suakin Diaries from July 7 to August 2 (and telegraphic information to August 19).

Omdurman and the Soudan generally.

(Confidential.)

A LETTER was received at Suakin by one of the Morghani purporting to be from the Khalifa Abdulla for his Excellency Zobeir Rahmat Pasha in Cairo.

The recipient, fearing that the letter might get into wrong hands, and consequently bring harm on Zobeir Pasha, kept the letter secret until he found a way, through a Morghani Sheikh, to inform Zobeir Pasha at Cairo of its arrival.

On learning this, Zobeir Pasha reported the news to this Department, who obtained the letter through the Governor of Suakin. The letter is translated, and attached as Appendix (A), and it fully represents the attitude and ideas of the Khalifa *re* Egypt and the Egyptians.

As regards the release of Khalifa Sherif, Ibrahim Abd-el-Rahman, who quitted Berber on the 26th June, arriving at Suakin on the 10th July, states that when Khalifa Abdulla released Khalifa Sherif he did not make any declaration in the mosque as he usually does on such occasions, but on the fourth day of the Baïram feast he called the Kadis and took them to the "Sayer," where he summoned Khalifa Sherif and shaved his head; he told him that God and the Prophet had appeared to him in a dream and told him to release him, and assure him that he had no right to communicate with the Danagla; he then restored to him his confiscated property, and gave him the house of Ahmed Sharfi.

Ez Zaher Mohammed Saïd, who left Berber on the 5th July, arriving at Suakin on the 20th July, states that the Khalifa has recently selected some 200 Mulazemin of the Fetihab Arabs, and added them to his body-guard.

Reporter further states that the chains with which Khalifa Sherif was bound during the period of his imprisonment have greatly affected his feet, that for the present he cannot walk.

The Khalifa ordered the people not to call him by the name of "Khalifa Sherif," but to call him simply Mohammed Ahmed.

The Khalifa banished Sadek Osman and Wad-el-Egeil to Bar-er-Raggaf, but not Ibrahim Wad Hamza, who is still in the "Sayer," and it is rumoured at Omdurman that the Khalifa intends to release him on payment of 20,000 dollars.

Bahr-el-Jebel and Bahr-el-Ghazal.

Ismaïl Abu Mariam, who left Berber on the 3rd July, arriving at Suakin on the 17th July, states that two boats arrived from Bahr-el-Jebel to Omdurman, and on their arrival the people who came in them were taken direct to the Khalifa, and they were not allowed to mix or communicate with the people.

The Khalifa, in order not to arouse suspicion in Omdurman, published news that a steamer was detained in the "sud," and that he intended to send men to get it out.

Subsequently, reporter says, the Khalifa gave orders that one from every three men of the people of Omdurman should prepare to go to Bahr-el-Jebel.

A great number of men were collected, and some of them started for Raggaf, under Mohammed Hamadnalla, the Emir of the powder factory at Khartoum.

Since the departure of this force, reporter says, it has transpired at Omdurman that the Khalifa intended only to deceive the people by saying that the steamer was detained in the "sud," and that his sending reinforcements to Bahr-el-Jebel goes to prove that there was fighting between the Dervish garrison there and a European force, and that the former has clamoured for reinforcements.

It is stated that a certain Mohammed Ahmed, who quitted Berber on the 16th July, arriving at Suakin on the 28th, corroborates most of the above news, and adds that the Dervishes at Raggaf, being suddenly threatened by a speedy advance of a European force, retired with all their ships and steamers to a place called Shambé, on the White Nile, and made their head-quarters there.

Emir Arabi Dafalla, on his arrival to Shambé, dispatched a boat manned by five sailors and four head boatmen with letters to the Khalifa, explaining the situation to him, and clamouring for reinforcements.

Reporter further states that Khalifa Abdulla, on the arrival of the boat, took the boatmen to his house and instructed them to keep the matter secret, and threatened them with death if they divulged it. He also gave each of them 30 dollars and a concubine, and told them to tell the peeple that the steamer was detained in the "sud," and that they were sent to give news that men were wanted to open the "sud" for her.

Reporter was present at Omdurman when this boat arrived, and being a friend to the head boatman he was able to learn the above news from him, but he could not tell to what nation this European military force belonged.

This news appears authentic, as reporter is well known to Intelligence Department at Suakin.

It took the boat fourteen days to arrive from Shambé to Omdurman.

Reporter further states that the boatmen who brought the news were seen only for two days at Omdurman; but on the third day they were not to be seen anywhere, and therefore it was thought by some at Omdurman that they must have been put to death.

Reporter also states that Omar Hadra has been cast into the "Sayer," and his property confiscated.

A certain Mohammed Ali, who left Berber on the 15th July, arriving at Suakin on the 25th, states that the Khalifa had great difficulty in getting sailors for the ships and steamers to send to Raggaf, as they used to hide themselves in order to escape from going there.

Abdulla Osman arrived at Suakin on the 27th July, having left Berber on the 15th, states that Fauzi Pasha has been banished to Raggaf; but up to the date of his departure the steamers had not left Omdurman.

Twenty-three Egyptians, labourers and artizans, who were in the employ of Belgians in the Congo State, after the expiration of their five years contract returned here early this month (August), and they report that the Belgians had had several fights with the Dervishes of Equatoria, who were driven off to remote stations on the Nile, and that the Belgians have now at Boma some prisoners.

They also had had several fights with the Dervishes of Bahr-el-Ghazal and the Zanzibar Arabs who coerce the blacks in the eastern part of the Congo State.

But these reports are only hearsay, as not one of them got beyond Stanley Falls.

Kordofan, Darfur, Waddai, and Rabeh.

It is reported from Bengazi that the Dervishes are extending their power westwards, and that they are now encamping in Dar Tama with intention to invade Waddai.

The Sultan of Waddai is now in great fear, and is willing to make peace with Rabeh, who is still at Bornu.

See letter received by Zobeir Pasha from his friend Salem-el-Mutawé, Bengazi, Appendix (B).

Reliable information has come to us through Zobeir Pasha, that the French are trying to extend their influence in the Tuareg country, and that after suffering a great defeat, in which they lost 700 men last year, they have taken them diplomatically, and most Sheikhs are subsidized with salaries varying from 5 to 50 dollars. They are extending their railway into the interior of the country, and they intend to communicate with Rabeh through Zinder.

It is rumoured that the Senussi left Kufra going south to Waddai, but this rumour appears to be without foundation.

Mari Isa, a Senussite, from Siwa, has arrived here, and states that the inhabitants of the Senussi order still refuse to pay taxes.

Fazogli.

Mohammed Ahmed, who gave the news about Raggaf, states that Tor-el-Guri is still against the Dervishes, and allows no Dervishes with jibbas to enter his province; but he sends presents of gold-dust to the Khalifa, and he allows traders to enter.

Berber.

Zaki arrived at Berber from Omdurman. He is to support Osman Digna in the coming operations against Kassala.

Mohammed Ali, who started from Berber on the 15th July, arriving at Suakin on the 25th, states that it is rumoured at Berber that Zaki is to send a reinforcement of 4,000 Jaalin to Osman Digna.

He also states that Zaki intends to levy a new tax on the inhabitants of Berber, amounting to 11 dollars each per annum.

Mohammed Ahmed, who gave the news about Raggaf, states that Emir Zaki, on his arrival to Berber, changed his attitude towards the Jaalin, and began to exert greater severity, a fact which indicated to the inhabitants that he must have been instructed by the Khalifa to deal with the Jaalin more severely as a punishment for helping Slatin Pasha's escape; for the Khalifa is impressed by the fact that most of the Jaalin, especially the Fahlab section, are implicated in this.

The Khalifa is also reported to have reprimanded Zeki for his leniency with the Jaalin.

Abdulla Osman, who arrived at Suakin on the 27th July, states that Zaki ordered all the relatives of Wad-el-Egeil to give account of their property and also of Ibrahim Wad Hamza's, which he no doubt intends to confiscate.

Kassala and Osman Digna.

A certain Onur Mohammed, of the Artega Arabs, who quitted Adarama on the 6th July, arriving at Suakin on the 16th, states that on the arrival of Osman Digna from Omdurman to Adarama, he ordered a parade, in which he announced to his Arabs that the Khalifa has called upon him to operate against Kassala and command the forces at Asubri and Goz Regeb; he also told them that he has been prevented for five years from a jehad, and that he was now very glad to participate in the war against the infidels. He also asked his men if they were also glad to fight against the infidels, to which they answered in the affirmative. He ordered them to keep ready under arms until he receives reinforcements from Berber, according to the Khalifa's instructions.

Reporter further states that Osman Digna explained to his men that on his arrival at Asobri he is ordered to proceed to Golsa, while Sayed Hamed and Ahmed Fadil will

proceed to Hillet Ahmed Sherif, one hour and a-half distant from Kassala, to co-operate against Kassala.

He further adds that Osman Digna sent summonses to all the Arab Sheikhs to collect all Arabs they could and follow him to Adarama.

He also sent to "Derir," at Kokreb, asking for a sum of money.

Osman has at Adarama about 2,000 Arabs, some 250 cavalry, and about 40 blacks armed with Remingtons.

A secret agent reports that Wad Omar, the Sheikh of the Welaliab Arabs, who lives with Osman Digna, dispatched a letter to the Italians, in which he informs them that he will keep them well informed of the movements of Osman Digna, and that in the campaign he will avail himself of an opportunity to join them with his Arabs; but this letter was seized at Goz Regeb by Osman's patrol.

It is also rumoured that Osman Digna asked from the Gemilab Arabs 400 men, but up to the present no one answered his request, and therefore it is thought he will send a raiding party to plunder them.

Suakin District: Dongola.

No fresh news.

The letters received from our secret agents Nos. 1 and 3, which give the news of Dongola and Suarda, are attached herewith as Appendix (C).

They deal mostly of a projected attack north of Sarras and the replacement of Yunes by Emir Mohammed Bishara as Emir of Dongola.

It is also reported from Dongola that Hammuda was recalled by the Khalifa to Omdurman, leaving Dongola on the 26th July, 1895, and that, owing to a dispute between the black Jehadia and the Mulazemin of Yunes, the Headmen of the Jehadia were put in prison.

A Dervish patrol of 130 camelmen and footmen came as far as Akasha and fired on the natives there. One of our scouts was killed and the Dervishes lost two men.

It is reported that the Dervishes are planning to cut the Murrat-Korosko telegraph line.

The following Appendices are attached:—*

(A.) A letter from the Khalifa Abdulla, Omdurman, to Zobeir Pasha, Cairo.
(B.) A letter from Salem-el-Mutawi, Bengazi, to Zobeir Pasha, Cairo.
(C.) Letters from secret agents, Dongola, Nos. 1 and 3.
(D.) Report on a visit to Murrat Telet Abda and Abu Araga, with sketch of route from Murrat to Abu Araga and back, and sketch of tank by Kaïmakam P. W. Machell Bey.
(E.) Trade Returns, frontier and Suakin.
(F.) Staff Diaries, Cairo, frontier and Suakin.
(G.) Reserve Ammunition Return, frontier (not yet received).
(H.) Return of temperature, Cairo, frontier and Suakin.
(I.) Meteorological observations, Cairo.

(Signed) J. G. MAXWELL, *Miralai,*
Director of Military Intelligence p. i.

Cairo, August 27, 1895.

No. 22.

Mr. Edwardes to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 16.)

(No. 148.) *Rome, September* 7, 1895.

My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 124 of the 26th July last, I have the honour to transmit copies of the Green Book, which I have only just been able to obtain, entitled "Agordat-Kassala," presented to Parliament by Baron Blanc.

* Not printed.

A very able and short précis by Mr. Cartwright is also herein inclosed, and gives a very clear résumé of all the documents published, with the exception of the despatches on purely military matters.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. G. EDWARDES.

Inclosure in No. 22.

Précis of Contents of Italian Green Book ("Agordat-Kassala") relating to Affairs in Erythræa.

THIS Green Book contains fifty-one documents, the earliest being dated the 22nd December, 1893, and the last the 30th May, 1895.

The first document is a telegram from Colonel Arimondi announcing the victory of Agordat (21st December, 1893). It is followed by the official Report of the military operations, and the list of honours granted to those who took part in them.

The despatches Nos. 6 and 7, dated the 11th May and 8th June, from General Baratieri, give an account of the situation in Erythræa at that time, and explain the reasons why, in the General's opinion, an attack upon Kassala was desirable. From a military point of view, according to him, the risk was not great, and in document No. 6 will be found an estimate of the total forces of the Mahdi, which are calculated to be under 50,000 men scattered over a vast area, of which only 1,500 were at Kassala.

On the 9th July General Baratieri telegraphs that he understands that the plan of the Dervishes is to concentrate their forces on Kassala in the autumn. Taking into consideration the general situation in Ethiopia, he thinks the moment had come to strike at Kassala, and he proposed to begin operations on the 14th July.

Baron Blanc replies on the 12th July that the Government of the King leaves it to the General to take such steps as are in his opinion most opportune for acting against Kassala.

On the 12th July General Baratieri telegraphs that the Dervishes are raiding friendly tribes, and that he proposes to advance the next day to chastise them.

The next document, No. 12, dated the 12th July, contains the General's plan of operations against Kassala. It is followed by telegrams announcing the progress of the march, and document No. 16, dated the 17th July, announces the taking of Kassala.

Document No. 18 is a telegram to the Italian Ambassador in London instructing him to inform the British Government of the taking of Kassala. The following document contains the reply of the Ambassador, conveying the congratulations of Lord Kimberley with regard to the military feat, while, with regard to the occupation of Kassala, his Lordship took note with satisfaction of the declaration of the Italian Government that the occupation was intended to consolidate the engagements taken with Great Britain.

Then follow the congratulations of the Italian Government and of the Emperor of Germany to General Baratieri on his victory.

Document No. 25 is a telegram from the Italian Ambassador in London, dated the 24th July, giving the substance of Sir E. Grey's statement in the House of Commons on the previous day respecting the Italian occupation of Kassala.

The next document is a reply from Baron Blanc, instructing the Ambassador to inform the Earl of Kimberley that the Italian Government fully concur in the language used by Sir E. Grey.

Document No. 28 contains the official Report of General Baratieri on the military operations at Kassala, and it is followed by a list of rewards to the troops.

Document No. 33, dated the 21st August, gives the precautions taken by the General for keeping open the road between Agordat and Kassala.

The remaining documents contain the information which reaches the Governor of Erythræa regarding the situation at Kassala and the Soudan, and the reports of the innumerable small engagements which take place continually with isolated bands of Dervishes.

From the perusal of these later documents it will be seen that after a few unsuccessful attempts the Mahdi has, if not given up the idea of retaking Kassala, at least postponed it on account of the difficulties of the undertaking.

The Green Book closes with a despatch from the Italian Agent at Cairo drawing the attention of the Italian Government to a statement in Lord Cromer's Report on Egypt, dated the 1st April, 1895, to the effect that the undisturbed condition of the neighbourhood of Suakin was principally due to the Italian occupation of Kassala.

No. 23.

Mr. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 24.)

(No. 119.)
My Lord, *Cairo, September* 15, 1895.

WITH reference to my despatches Nos. 100 and 108 of the 3rd and 17th August respectively, I have the honour to report that the Court of Appeal has confirmed the sentence of three months' imprisonment passed by the Court of First Instance on the five natives charged with assault upon Mr. Gibb at Aboukir, and has not, as might fairly have been anticipated, increased the sentence in the case of the principal offender. The Court of Appeal was composed of an English and two native Judges. The Minister of Foreign Affairs has, at my request, asked for a report on the conduct of the case from the Ministry of Justice, but up to the present moment, when the mail is about to be closed, this report has not been received.

Until it has reached me I will refrain from making any comments on the case beyond remarking that the leniency of the sentences presents a very marked contrast to the severity of those passed in the case of the outrage at Cairo on the funeral party of the East Yorkshire Regiment, reported in my despatch No. 103 of the 9th ultimo, when the sentences of one year's imprisonment with fines have been confirmed by the Court of Appeal.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RENNELL RODD.

No. 24.

Mr. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 28.)

(No. 121. Confidential.)
My Lord, *Cairo, September* 19, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to report that the Khedive returned to Egypt on the 16th instant, after an absence of nearly two months at Constantinople.

His Highness makes no concealment of the fact that his visit has been neither a success nor a satisfaction from any point of view, and he discusses the relations which subsisted between the Sultan and himself in the frankest possible manner, reviewing the situation from a humorous rather than a resentful standpoint.

It was, he says, made impossible for him personally ever to approach any serious subject of discussion with His Imperial Majesty, who treated him, he openly admits, throughout as a child whom it sufficed to put off with childish arguments.

On the matter which most particularly interested him, his contemplated journey to Thasos and Kavalla, his application for permission to proceed there was dealt with by the Ministry with a series of evasive replies, culminating at length in a categorical refusal. His request to be allowed to visit the Greek islands was also rejected, and he was unable even to obtain permission to send his small yacht to Kavalla to pick up his agent and the letters which were awaiting him there, on the ground that the British fleet was cruising in that neighbourhood.

He speaks with a certain bitterness of the system of espionage which prevails at Constantinople, and of the absurd reports respecting himself carried to the Palace by informers; but at first, as I have stated, his sense of the humour of the situation was more conspicuous even than his annoyance.

At any rate, his latest visit to Constantinople would appear to have finally dispelled any illusions he may have entertained as to the possibility of furthering his personal aims by becoming a factor in the Sultan's counsels.

Since His Highness' return the geniality which he at first displayed has somewhat worn off, and he has vented his spleen upon his Ministers for no apparent reason than because they have been working in perfect harmony with their English advisers. The Khedive is always apt to be under the influence of the last person with whom he

has been conversing, and it would appear that some of those whom he is delighted to honour have been busy entertaining him with stories of what they describe as the weakness of the Ministry during his absence. He is consequently put out with the Acting President of the Council and the Minister for Foreign Affairs on account of the apologies offered by the Governor of Cairo to Sir Frederick Walker after the outrage at the military funeral. He has fallen foul of the Minister of Finance on account of the refusal of the Acting Financial Adviser to warrant an advance to an impecunious member of the Khedivial family in Paris. But most of all he has vented his spleen on the Minister of Justice, presumably for having sanctioned the appeal of the Procureur-Général in the case of the assault on Mr. Gibb.

The Ministers are consequently depressed and discontented. After the support which they have received in the early part of the year there is little possibility of their again contemplating resignation, but, none the less, the Khedive has lost no time in demonstrating that it is his constant care to make the path of those who work well with their English advisers as thorny as possible.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RENNELL RODD.

No. 25.

Mr. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 28.)

(No. 122. Very Confidential.)
My Lord, *Cairo, September* 21, 1895.

THE sudden departure of the Khedive from Constantinople four days after his telegram announcing that his journey was indefinitely postponed has naturally given rise to much curiosity and comment; and it now appears to be probable, from various indications in different quarters, that this change of plans was by no means voluntary, but was caused by a peremptory order from the Palace to leave immediately.

I give this information with all reserve, but if it be true, as there seems good reason for thinking, it cannot but be of considerable importance as affecting the future relations between His Highness and the Sultan.

A French paper, called "Nouvelles d'Orient," a copy of which was shown me a few days before the Khedive returned, published a telegram from Constantinople the substance of which was that, notwithstanding the spies by whom he was surrounded, His Highness had succeeded in having an interview with an ex-Minister, to whom he had stated that, in spite of the Sultan's amiability, His Imperial Majesty was too weak in character to deal with the present situation; "He is not the man," he concluded, "to shake off the yoke of the Powers, nor to wrest my country from the hands of the English."

The local papers here have also published a paragraph, supposed to emanate from a very well-informed source, stating that the Khedive was ordered to leave suddenly in consequence of certain unwelcome advice which he volunteered to the Sultan.

I should not have felt justified in attaching any great importance to either of these two publications, were it not that it has leaked out, through an "indiscrétion" of the Austrian doctor who accompanied His Highness, that something of this kind actually did occur, and that an unexpected order to leave was suddenly sent on board the "Mahroussa," conveyed, it is rumoured, not to the Khedive, but to the captain of the ship. From an admission made by the Khedive himself it appears that emissaries from the Palace kept coming off up to the moment the ship was actually under weigh, to ascertain that he was on board; and he has also stated that he had wished to pass Yenikale in the daylight, but was obliged to steam on lhrough the night owing to an order from the Palace.

He has himself volunteered no explanation of his sudden change of plans, and it appears to be more than probable that there is some truth in the story of his dismissal in disgrace; and that the Sultan is as little pleased with his Viceroy as the Khedive appears to be with the Sultan.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RENNELL RODD.

No. 26.

Mr. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 28.)

(No. 123.)
My Lord, *Cairo, September* 21, 1895.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 119 of the 15th instant and to previous correspondence, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a translation of the judgment of the Court of Appeal at Cairo confirming the sentence of the Court of First Instance at Alexandria on the five natives charged with assaulting Mr. Gibb at Aboukir. The Court was, as I have reported, composed of one English and two native judges.

It will I think be desirable, on the return of the Judicial Adviser from leave, that the whole case should be submitted to him for examination, as it does not seem wholly clear to the laymen that no greater measure of guilt should be imputed to the chief offender who instigated and directed the assault than to men who appear to have been merely acting under his orders. Nor is it altogether obvious that the special legislation provided for assaults by bands of more than five persons, referred to in my despatch No. 108 of the 17th ultimo, could not have been made applicable in this case.

Since the return of the Khedive I have discussed the case with His Highness, and he has authorized me to inform Mr. Gibb of the regret with which he had heard of the treatment to which he had been subjected, while repudiating entirely the pretensions of these men to have been acting on his behalf. He expressed considerable annoyance that his name had been made use of, and added that the chief offender had been under probation with a view to employment on his property, a prospect which, he implied, had now become impossible. I hope that it may prove so. He also said that he was giving instructions that the sum claimed by the Aboukir Company for the damage done to their canal should be paid, which would logically appear to be an admission of responsibility for the action of the Agents, whose conduct, as far as Mr. Gibb is concerned, he vehemently repudiates.

The conduct of the whole case has not been altogether satisfactory; there was a hesitancy about the witnesses which proved their reluctance to give evidence, and, as I am informed by the English Representative of the Ministry of Interior, a lukewarmness about the Parquet when the case was presented on appeal. I do not, however, see what further action can be taken in the matter and, with the reserve that the Judicial Adviser should be instructed to examine the case on his return, trust that your Lordship will agree that the incident must now be regarded as closed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RENNELL RODD.

Inclosure in No. 26.

Judgment of the Court of Appeal in Cairo.

(Translation.)

IN the name of His Highness the Khedive:

The Court of Appeal in Cairo:

In the Criminal Chamber assembled under the presidency of Mohamed Magdi Bey, and being present Mr. Willmore and Kassim Emin Bey, Judges, Mohamed Ferid Bey, representing the Parquet, and Mohamed Abdel Raouf Effendi, Greffier, gave judgment as follows:—

In the prosecution by the Parquet, No. 1720 of 1895, entered in the General Register *sub numero* 1477 of 1895:

Against:

Mohamed Gharib-el-Saïda, aged 40, gardener on the Montazah estate, born in the Saïd;*
Naaman Yousuf Mansour, aged 30, fellah, born in the Saïd;
Sid Saad Hassan Sheiba, aged 28, fellah, born in Behera;
Mohamed Saad Hassen Sheiba, aged 32, fellah, born in Behera;
Mursi Ali-el-Fishâwi, aged 22, fellah, born in Behera;

* Upper Egypt.

Mohamed Effendi Shoubashi being appointed counsel for the defence.

After hearing of the statement presented by the Greffier, the demands of the Parquet, and the statements of the defendants and their counsel; and after the perusal of the dossier of the case, and deliberation as by law established:

Whereas, the Parquet accuses the defendants of assault on Mr. Alexander Croft Gibb, Englishman, committed in the Kharaba district of Alexandria on the 29th July, 1895, and demands their punishment in accordance with the terms of the Khediviac Decree of the 18th April, 1895.

Whereas, on the 15th August, 1895, the Lower Court sitting at Alexandria gave judgment in accordance with Articles 220, 67, 68, and 24 of the Criminal Code; to wit, that the defendants should undergo three months' imprisonment and be mulcted in costs with security given, in default of payment whereof they should be dealt with according to Article 49 of the revised Criminal Code.

Whereas, the Parquet and the defendants appealed against this decision, and the Appeal Parquet has referred the case to the opinion of the Court.

Whereas, the statements of the plaintiff Gibb and his servants go to show that the defendants seized him and threw him on the ground, and that one of them, viz., Mohamed-el-Saïdi, struck him several times, this being in consequence of a dispute relating to the opening and shutting off of water supply at the dairy farm at Ramleh on the 7th Sefer, 1313 (29th July, 1895).

Whereas, should it be said that differences existed in the statements of some of the witnesses, it should be remarked that these were statements not affecting the main issue of the case, and, moreover, the evidence of each witness was taken separately, as far as was possible, no other of the witnesses being present.

Whereas, the medical examination has shown the existence of a bite on the thigh of the plaintiff Gibb, with bruises on the right eyelid and scratches on the neck, and there can be no doubt that he received these injuries at the time when he was seized by the defendants.

Whereas, there is no evidence to show that the defendants had any previous purpose except to again close the water-way in order to irrigate the land under their cultivation in the neighbourhood, and therefore there is no room for the statement that the assault was prearranged, or that they had assembled for the purpose of committing it. This is confirmed by the evidence of Gibb and his witnesses, viz., that the defendants had closed two sluices before they met and seized him, and that they closed others after his men had taken him to his house.

Whereas, the supposition of evil intent cannot be maintained, nor that of assembling for the purpose of assault.

Whereas, it appears from the investigations which have been made, that the defendants were the actual perpetrators of one of two things—either striking the plaintiff or holding him whilst he was struck.

Whereas, the medical testimony has pronounced two days' treatment necessary for the injuries received by the plaintiff Gibb.

Whereas, under these circumstances, the punishment of the defendants should be in accordance with Article 220 of the Code, as previously decreed by the Court of First Instance, there being no ground for the application of the Khedivial Decree of 13 Shawal, 1312 (27th April, 1895).

Whereas, no unfavourable antecedents regarding the defendants are within the knowledge of the Court.

Whereas, the Court adopts the views set forth in the judgment of the Court of First Instance as regards the proofs of striking, wounding, and assault committed by Mohamed-el-Saïdi and the other defendants on the plaintiff Gibb in consequence of a question relating to the shutting-off of water supply; and confirms the judgment above-mentioned, considering the defendants as actual perpetrators of the assault in accordance with Articles 220, 20, 24, and 49 of the Criminal Code, as follows:—

Article 220. "When the wounds or blows inflicted are not so serious as those mentioned in the two preceding Articles, the guilty party shall be punished by imprisonment for from one month to one year."

Article 20. "When an individual already in custody is condemned to a term of imprisonment, the duration of the term should be reckoned from the day on which judgment was finally delivered, and in giving sentence the judge should take into account the time during which the party has been detained in custody."

Article 24. "All the parties condemned for one and the same offence will be held liable in common for all fines, restitutions, damages, and costs."

Article 49. "The imprisonment for recovery of fines and costs shall be calculated at the rate of twenty-four hours for each P. T. 30."

On these grounds:

The Court confirms the previous judgment, and condemns the defendants to pay the costs as ordained in Article 49 of the Code.

Given in the Court of Appeal at the sitting of Saturday, the 7th September, 1895.

(Signed) The PRESIDENT.
The GREFFIER.

No. 27.

Lord Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 30.)

(No. 65. Confidential.)
(Telegraphic.) P.

Cairo, September 30, 1895.

THE Khedive and his Ministers are not on good terms. This is attributable in part to the desire of the Khedive for continual change, and in part to his annoyance that the Ministers and the English officials have worked well together while he has been absent. It would be as well that Sir Elwin Palmer or the Embassy should give a hint to Nubar Pasha, who is at Paris, to the effect that it is advisable that he should return as soon as is convenient to him. Under present circumstances, the Acting Prime Minister is too weak.

Nubar Pasha should not let people in Egypt know that I have made this suggestion.

No. 28.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Lord Cromer.

(No. 146.)

Foreign Office, October 2, 1895.

My Lord,

I HAVE received Mr. Rodd's despatch No. 123 of the 21st ultimo relative to the assault committed on Mr. Gibb at Abukir.

I approve Mr. Rodd's suggestion that the case should be submitted for examination to the Judicial Adviser on his return to Egypt, and I concur in his view that the incident should now be regarded asclosed.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 29.

Mr. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 7.)

(No. 124.)

Cairo, September 28, 1895.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a report by Mr. Consul Gould,* together with its inclosures, on the assault committed by the Port Saïd police on the janissary of the British Consulate when interfering to protect some seamen who had been arrested and handed over to the mob for conveyance to the police-station, during which they were roughly handled.

I have also the honour to transmit to your Lordship copy of the note which I addressed to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, asking for a visit of apology from the Governor of Port Saïd, and for the trial of the accused by Court-martial.* This reparation had been already asked for from the Governor by Mr. Consul Gould before the full particulars of the case reached me, but the Minister for Foreign Affairs represented that a demand of this kind was usually preferred through the Agency, a contention which appeared to me just. He also suggested that, under present conditions, such charges against the police should be tried before the civil Tribunals.

* Not printed.

On examination of the police Règlement, I found that provision is made for the trial by Court-martial of cases which involve breaches of discipline, and as the handing over of prisoners to the mob appeared to me to be rightly included in that category, and as, moreover, there have been upwards of ninety Courts-martial held this year upon policemen for various charges connected with breach of discipline and assault, I felt that the original demand put forward by Mr. Consul Gould should be maintained.

The visit of the Governor was paid within a few hours of the receipt of my note by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and I have the honour to inclose copy of Mr. Gould's despatch No. 11 notifying the fact.*

I have this day received a visit from Boutros Pasha, in which he has informed me of the nature of the reply which he will in due course return to my note. It will be to the effect that the Ministry of the Interior will take steps to secure the adequate punishment of the police agents. He adds privately that the trial will be by Court-martial, but he is anxious to avoid stating this in his official reply, as he does not want thereby to establish a precedent which might be invoked in similar cases, maintaining as he does that the spirit of existing Decrees is to make the police amenable to civil Tribunals, and that the present Règlement, which provides for Courts-martial, will require amendment where there is apparent contradiction.

How far such amendment is desirable will be matter for future consideration, and what offences are to be especially reserved for trial by Court-martial as disciplinary offences will require to be carefully examined.

Boutros Pasha also informed me that it was the intention of the Egyptian Government to call attention to the conduct of the janissary, as they had abundant evidence to prove that one of the police agents had been very severely handled by him, and, inasmuch as they considered that he acted illegally in several details, they would ask for his punishment.

From a careful investigation made on the spot by one of the English Inspectors at the Interior, there appears to be little doubt that the janissary, after having been struck by the policeman, retaliated with a stick, and severe marks of beating were found on the man's body. He also appears to have struck the native who had hold of the arrested seaman.

If this charge be brought home to the janissary it will not, however, in any way diminish the gravity of the charges against the police, and for this your Lordship has been good enough to approve the satisfaction which has been demanded and obtained.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RENNELL RODD.

No. 30.

Mr. Edwardes to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 12.)

(No. 40.)
(Telegraphic.) P.

Rome, October 12, 1895.

ITALIAN Government have just heard that an engagement has taken place at Debra Ailat between the vanguard of their troops, under Colonel Ameglio, and a body of Tigrines from Schoa, who were strongly posted on a hill. The enemy was driven from its position and fled. The Italian troops appear to have been completely successful; their loss amounts to eleven killed and thirty wounded, all the killed being natives.

M. Maissa communicated the above to me privately.

[1537 *m*—1]

No. 31.

Lord Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 15.)

(No. 125.)
My Lord,

Cairo, October 3, 1895.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 93 of the 19th July last, announcing the signature of the Egypto-Italian Frontier Treaty of July 1895, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I have handed the original Treaty, signed by Generals

* Not printed.

Baratieri and Kitchener, to the latter, to be kept in the archives of the Egyptian War Office.

It is desirable to place this fact on record, in case it should be necessary at any future time to refer to the original document.

I inclose a copy of General Kitchener's letter acknowledging its receipt.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CROMER.

Inclosure in No 31.

General Kitchener to Lord Cromer.

My Lord,

Cairo, October 2, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the original of the Treaty arranging for the delimitation of the frontier between the Italian and Egyptian territories to the south of Suakin.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT KITCHENER,
Sirdar, Egyptian Army.

No. 32.

Lord Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 15.)

(No. 126.)
My Lord,

Cairo, October 5, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a copy of a despatch which I have received from Mr. Vice-Consul Maling, reporting the sentence of the court-martial which tried the policeman concerned in the recent incident at Port Saïd, referred to in my despatch No. 124 of the 28th ultimo.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CROMER.

Inclosure in No. 32.

Vice-Consul Maling to Lord Cromer.

My Lord,

Port Saïd, October 2, 1895.

REFERRING to the previous correspondenee on the matter of the assault committed on the janissary of this Consulate, I have the honour to report to your Lordship that the Acting Commandant of the Police, Bimbachi (Major) Schalch, informed me that Corporal and Honorary Lance-Sergeant Mahmoud has been sentenced by court-martial to eighty-four days' imprisonment with hard labour, and disrated to a private of police.

In justice to the Acting Commandant, Bimbachi Schalch, I must add that hroughout this disagreeable incident he has acted with the greatest tact and judgment.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRED. F. MALING.

No. 33.

Mr. Edwardes to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 15.)

(No. 166. Confidential.)
My Lord,

Rome, October 11, 1895.

IT is impossible to learn the amount of truth, even if the Government know it, that there may be in the reports which have for the last week appeared in the press relative to the condition of things in Africa.

It is said that General Baratieri, immediately on his return to his post, had taken vigorous measures to resist a probable attack on the Italian positions by Ras Mangascia and his allies, and that the General has even made a forward movement to prevent the junction of certain tribes with Ras Mangascia's forces.

Last night's papers stated that a telegram was hourly expected reporting the result of this movement of General Baratieri.

From information which has reached me during the past summer from General Baratieri himself and from Colonel Sartorius, who passed through Rome after his visit to Erythrea, there is every reason to believe that the forces at the disposition of the General will be quite sufficient to enable him to repel successfully any attack that may be made upon them.

The papers deny a report which has been current, to the effect that a further contingent of troops is to be at once sent from Italy to Africa.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. G. EDWARDES.

No. 34.

Mr. Edwardes to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 15.)

(No. 167.)
My Lord, *Rome, October* 12, 1895.

JUST as the bag is closing, Signor Maissa has sent me privately a copy of a telegram just received from Africa.

The following is a translation of the same:—

"*Antalo, October* 10 (?), 1895.

"Yesterday, at daybreak, Mangascia, with a portion of his troops, fled towards the south—others dispersed: about 1,300 Tigrines from Scioa held Debra Ailat. 'Vanguard,' commanded by Ameglio, after a very rapid march, came up to Debra Ailat, and attacked position with six companies, four guns, supported by a battalion of Italian Chasseurs with native troops. In spite of the strong position on the hills the difficulties were surmounted; our troops put to flight the enemy, who disappeared amongst ravines, &c., leaving some prisoners, some wounded, and twenty killed. Our losses—eleven killed, and thirty wounded.

"Exemplary spirit, conduct, and resistance in march of the Chasseurs and Engineers; the *morale* is splendid with every one; no white person killed."

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. G. EDWARDES.

No. 35.

Lord Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 8.)

(No. 75.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Cairo, November* 8, 1895.

I HAVE seen Nubar Pasha, who returned a few days ago, and who tells me that he wishes to resign, as he is broken in health. It is certainly true that he is very ill and aged in appearance. For a few days nothing will be done, but I think that, under the circumstances, my pressing him strongly to stay would be undesirable. No serious trouble can, as far as I anticipate, result from the change.

No. 36.

Lord Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 9.)

(No. 76.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Cairo, November* 9, 1895.

NUBAR PASHA, with whom I have had a further conversation, is quite evidently bent on retiring from office. It is agreed that he should see the Khedive at an early opportunity, and intimate to His Highness, without actually giving his resignation, that, if arrangements can be made so that any break of policy may be obviated, he wishes to retire from office.

No. 37.

Lord Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 11.)

(No. 77.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Cairo, November* 11, 1895.

AT an interview with the Khedive this morning Nubar Pasha informed His Highness that he wished to be relieved of his office, on the ground that his health was failing. The result of the consultation which I had with His Highness, who at once sent for me, is that the Prime Minister is to be Mustapha Pasha Fehmy. Abany Pasha, who is a man of very conciliatory disposition, and at present the Khedive's Chamberlain, will occupy the War Office, which becomes vacant. The other Ministers retain office.

The behaviour of the Khedive throughout the negotiation was as friendly as possible. Would your Lordship authorize me to say something to him to the effect that his action is highly appreciated by Her Majesty's Government? I informed him that I felt sure that this was the case.

No. 38.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Lord Cromer.

(No. 35.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, November* 11, 1895, 2·40 P.M.

I HAVE received your Lordship's telegrams Nos. 75 and 76 of the 8th and 9th instant respectively, announcing the intention of Nubar Pasha to resign office on the ground of failing health.

It is with great regret that Her Majesty's Government hear of his Excellency's determination to retire, and of the reason which has prompted his decision.

You should take an opportunity of stating both to the Khedive and Nubar Pasha how highly Her Majesty's Government appreciate the eminent services which, during his long official career, his Excellency has rendered to his country.

Her Majesty's Government trust that the Ministerial arrangements consequent on his resignation will be of a nature to insure a continuance of the policy of conciliation which during his recent tenure of office his Excellency has so successfully carried out.

The present unsettled state of Eastern politics, and the troubles by which other portions of the Sultan's dominions are threatened, make it especially desirable in the Khedive's own interests to avoid the occurrence in Egypt of any difficulties or complications.

No. 39.

Lord Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 12.)

(No. 78.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Cairo, November* 12, 1895.

WITH reference to your Lordship's telegram No. 35 of the 11th, your Lordship's message is very highly appreciated by Nubar Pasha, who requests me to convey his warmest thanks to you for it.

(Confidential.)

No necessity arose for using the latter part of your telegram, in consequence of the way in which matters turned out.

No. 40.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Lord Cromer.

(No. 36.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, November* 12, 1895, 1·40 P.M.

I HAVE received your telegram No. 77 of the 11th instant, reporting the result of your consultation with the Khedive on the subject of the Ministerial arrangements consequent on the retirement of Nubar Pasha.

I shall be glad if you will express to His Highness the acknowledgments of Her Majesty's Government for the friendly confidence displayed by him in at once consulting you on the matter, and their gratification at his choice of Ministers to fill the vacancies created.

No. 41.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Lord Cromer.

(No. 37.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, November* 15, 1895.

THE following is most confidential.

I have received your Lordship's despatch No. 134 of the 29th ultimo, relative to the question of the construction of a Nile resevoir.

There is not at present any prospect of Her Majesty's Government consenting to the dispatch of a military expedition from Egypt against the Khalifa. Such an expedition would irritate the French Government, and might lead to an advance on the part of France to the valley of the Upper Nile, which Her Majesty's Government are not yet in a position to occupy. The financial arrangements of the Egyptian Government should accordingly be made without reference to the cost of an expedition to the Soudan.

No. 42.

Lord Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received December 2.)

(No. 141.)
My Lord, *Cairo, November* 18, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith copy of a note which I have received from Boutros Pasha, forwarding two draft Decrees which have been drawn up relative to funds to be placed at the disposal of the Alexandria Municipality.

I beg to recommend these proposals to the favourable consideration of Her Majesty's Government.

With reference to the last paragraph of Boutros Pasha's letter, I would remark that it is more probable that the French Government would agree to a continuance of the tax on the value of exports and imports for a fixed term of years rather than for an indefinite period, subject to a year's denunciation, as proposed in the draft Decree.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CROMER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 42.

Boutros Pasha to Lord Cromer.

(Circulaire.)
Milord, *Caire, le* 17 *Novembre*, 1895.

AINSI qu'il est à votre connaissance, le Gouvernement de Son Altesse avait obtenu l'année dernière l'assentiment des Puissances à la prorogation pour une année de la perception du droit d'un ½ pour 1,000 sur la valeur des exportations et importations, prévu par l'Article 40 du Décret Organique de la Municipalité d'Alexandrie.

Cette prorogation expirant le 31 Décembre prochain le Gouvernement Égyptien serait désireux que la Municipalité pût continuer à percevoir ce droit pour une période indéterminée.

En vue d'augmenter les ressources Budgétaires de la Municipalité d'Aléxandrie et de développer les travaux d'utilité publique dans cette ville, le Gouvernement de Son Altesse céderait, à partir du 1er Janvier, 1896, à la Commission Municipale :—

1. La moitié du produit net de la vente des biens libres de l'État situés dans le périmètre de la ville d'Alexandrie.

2. L'excédent du revenu de l'impôt du douzième sur la propriété bâtie dans le périmètre de la ville d'Alexandrie au delà de la somme perçue en 1895, déduction faite des arriérés afférents aux années précédentes.

3. Toutes recettes quelconques de l'abattoir d'Alexandrie, dans leur intégralité, et sans qu'il y ait lieu à la redevance au profit du Gouvernement Égyptien prévu par l'Article 15 du Contrat de Concession du dit abattoir passé avec la Commission Municipale le 15 Août, 1892.

Le Gouvernement ayant cru bon de consulter officieusement la Caisse sur ces trois points, je suis heureux de vous annoncer que son avis est favorable.

En vous transmettant donc ci-inclus les deux projets de Décret préparés dans ce but, je vous serais obligé, Milord, de vouloir bien me prêter votre obligeant concours pour obtenir que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique, dans sa sollicitude pour les intérêts de la principale ville commerciale de l'Égypte, veuille bien adhérer aux propositions ci-dessus formulées.

Je dois ajouter, Milord, que dans le cas où le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique voudrait l'abolition de la dite taxe, elle cessera d'être perçue un an après l'avis qui en sera donné à cet effet par votre Agence au Gouvernement Égyptien.

Veuillez, &c.
Le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères,
(Signé) BOUTROS GHALI.

Inclosure 2 in No. 42.

Draft Decree.

NOUS, Khédive d'Égypte,

Vu le Décret du 5 Janvier, 1890, instituant la Commission Municipale d'Alexandrie ;

Vu notre Décret du 22 Décembre, 1894, prorogeant jusqu'au 31 Décembre, 1895, la perception des taxes prévues aux paragraphes (*a*) and (*b*) de l'Article 40 du Décret précité du 5 Janvier, 1890 ;

Avec l'assentiment des Puissances ;

Sur la proposition de notre Ministre des Finances et l'avis conforme de notre Conseil des Ministres,

Avons décrété et décrétons :

Article 1er. Les taxes prévues aux paragraphes (*a*) et (*b*) de l'Article 40 du Décret susvisé du 5 Janvier, 1890, continueront à être perçues à partir du 1er Janvier, 1896, au profit du Budget de la Commission Municipale d'Alexandrie.

Art. 2. Notre Ministre de l'Intérieur est chargé de l'exécution du présent Décret.

Fait au Palais de , le .

Inclosure 3 in No. 42.

Draft Decree.

NOUS, Khédive d'Égypte,

Vu le Décret du 5 Janvier, 1890, instituant la Commission Municipale d'Alexandrie ;

Vu le Décret du 27 Juillet, 1885 ;

Vu l'Article 1er, paragraphe 2, du Décret du 12 Juillet, 1888 ;

Avec l'assentiment des Puissances Signataires de la Convention de Londres du 17 Mars, 1885.

Sur la proposition de notre Ministre des Finances et l'avis conforme de notre Conseil des Ministres,

Avons décrété et décrétons :

Article 1er. A partir du 1er Janvier, 1896, seront ajoutés aux revenus attribués à la Commission Municipale d'Alexandrie :

1. L'excédent du produit de l'impôt du douzième sur la propriété bâtie dans le périmètre de la ville d'Alexandrie, au delà de la somme perçue en 1895 ; pour le calcul de cet excédent tous les arriérés antérieurs à 1896 seront retranchés du produit de l'impôt ;

2. Toutes recettes quelconques de l'abattoir d'Alexandrie, pendant la durée de la Concession résultant du Contrat passé avec la Commission Municipale le 15 Août, 1892 ; la redevance établie au profit de notre Gouvernement par l'Article 15 du dit Contrat est supprimée ;

3. La moitié du produit net de la vente des biens libres de l'État dans le périmètre de la ville d'Alexandrie, sans que les sommes qui seront attribuées de ce chef à la Municipalité puissent excéder £ E. 8,000 pour chaque période de cinq ans. Le produit net se compose de tous les prix de vente réalisés, déduction faite des frais du bureau des immeubles libres à Alexandrie.

Art. 2. Nos Ministres de l'Intérieur et des Finances sont chargés, chacun en ce qui le concerne, de l'exécution du présent Décret.

Fait au Palais de , le .

No. 43.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Lord Cromer.

(No. 172.) *Foreign Office, December* 6, 1895.

My Lord,

I HAVE received your despatch No. 141 of the 18th ultimo, inclosing a note from the Egyptian Minister for Foreign Affairs, together with two Khedivial Decrees relative to funds to be placed at the disposal of the Municipality of Alexandria, and recommending the proposal to the favourable consideration of Her Majesty's Government.

Your Lordship is authorized to inform Boutros Pasha that Her Majesty's Government concur in the arrangement suggested.

If, however, as your Lordship considers probable, the French Government should be more ready to agree to the continuance of the municipal tax on exports and imports for a fixed term of years, rather than for an indefinite period, Her Majesty's Government would raise no objection.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 44.

Lord Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received December 16.)

(No. 82. Secret.) *Cairo, December* 16, 1895.
(Telegraphic.) P.

I LEARN from the Italian Chargé d'Affaires that a French Archbishop is to be appointed here in the place of the present incumbent, Mgr. Corbelli. The Austrian Consul-General is telegraphing to Vienna on the subject. He is much opposed to the appointment.

No. 45.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Lord Cromer.

(No. 38.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, December* 18, 1895.

YOUR Lordship's telegram No. 82 of the 16th instant relative to the proposed appointment of a French ecclesiastic to the Archbishopric of Alexandria has been repeated to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Rome.

I understand that representations will be made on the subject by the Austrian Representative at the Vatican, but I doubt if any effect would be produced under present circumstances by remonstrances on the part of Her Majesty's Government.

No. 46.

Lord Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received December 20.)

(No. 83. Confidential.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Cairo, December* 20, 1895.

I BEG to refer your Lordship to the inclosures in your despatch No. 177 of the 13th.

The Catholic Coptic Patriarch has recently received assistance from me to obtain permission to build certain churches, and also towards obtaining land at Alexandria at a very cheap rate for his community. My assistance will shortly be required again by him in order to obtain Austrian protection for himself and his community. I am quite disposed to help to the best of my ability, but it will not be easy to settle the matter. He is supported by the Austrian Consul-General.

With regard to the choice of an Archbishop, any French nominee must certainly be hostile. Some additional claim for reciprocal treatment on the part of the Vatican would appear to be constituted by these acts of friendship on our part.

I have sent a copy of this to Rome.

No. 47.

*The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir Clare Ford.**

(No. 93.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, December* 24, 1895.

THE following is secret.

I have been informed by the Austrian Chargé d'Affaires in London that Cardinal Ledochowski stated, in reply to the representations made by the Austro-Hungarian Government at the Vatican, that, although it had been decided in principle to remove the present Roman Catholic Archbishop of Alexandria, no change would be made for the present. The Cardinal promised to do what he could to prevent the appointment of a French ecclesiastic as successor to Mgr. Corbelli.

No. 48.

Lord Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received December 27.)

(No. 150. Confidential.)
Cairo, December 17, 1895.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith copy of a letter addressed by the Khalifa Abdullah to the Sheikh-el-Senussi, which has been communicated to me by Major Wingate. It was brought from Omdurman by a Magrabi Arab who was recently liberated from captivity with the oases prisoners, and who was intercepted by the Arab post at Shebb.

* Also to Lord Cromer (No. 39).

Major Wingate is of opinion that the oases prisoners and Magrabi Arabs must have spoken much when in Omdurman of an alliance between the Khalifa and Sheikh Senussi, with the object of effecting their escape by constituting themselves special messengers, and that the readiness of the prisoner to show where he had concealed the letters shows that they had no real intention of sending them to Senussi. He also thinks that they promised the Khalifa to procure lead, powder, &c., and that they would not hesitate to do so as they would make money in this way.

Major Wingate adds that the Khalifa has been alarmed lately about the success of the tribes (who are adherents of Senussi) on the Darfour frontier, and has no doubt considered that a friendly correspondence might improve relations which, owing to the different views the rivals take of Mahdiism, can never be very cordial.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CROMER.

Inclosure in No. 48.

Letter addressed by Khalifa Abdulla-el-Taaishi to the son of Sheikh Senussi.

(Translation.)
(Secret.)

[THIS letter, together with eleven Mahdi Prayer-books and six books of Mahdi's and Khalifa's Proclamations was brought from Omdurman by a certain Magrabi Arab, named Gowai Hassan, who, together with the seven oases prisoners, was recently liberated from captivity; the oases prisoners returned viâ Dongola and Halfa, but Gowai Hassan, for greater safety, was sent by the western desert. He was intercepted, wearing Dervish clothes, by our Arab post at Shebb, and confessed that he was bearer of letters and Proclamations to the Senussi, &c., which he had buried in the neighbourhood of Selima; in accordance with our instructions, our Arabs accompanied Gowai Hassan to the spot indicated, and found the letter and books in question, which are now in our hands.]

"The Khalifa to Ibn-el-Wali-es-Senussi.

"*5th Jamad-el-Awal*, 1313 (*October* 24, 1895).

"After giving you a Moslem's greeting, we assure you that you are constantly in our thoughts and we continually inquire about you, hoping to hear from you and learn all details of your present affairs, but we have not received any letter or messenger from you giving us your news; nevertheless, we still hold a high opinion of you on account of your zeal for the faith and on account of your efforts to improve degenerate Moslems; we therefore do not blame you for your silence, but attribute it to your great occupation in charitable deeds.

"God, in his Holy Book, has commanded us to support the faith in the following words: 'Support religion and be not divided.' The Prophet has said, 'Believers may be likened to a building the stones of which support one another, or they may be likened to the two hands which wash each other, or to the body which feels pain throughout, though only one of its members suffer.'

"Now is the time to support and encourage the faith when God has animated us with the fire of religion by sending us the Mahdi who raised the 'Jehad,' and whose Khalifa I am. His disciples are in all parts fighting against God's enemies. You also may be reckoned amongst them (his disciples), in that you have shown signs of hostility to God's enemies; and, besides, you are well aware what Moslems are suffering at the hands of infidels, who have seized the properties and homes of Moslems, and are doing all they can to weaken the cause and to extinguish the light of God amongst them.

"How long shall this neglect of duty and hesitation to support the faith continue? This is a miserable world, and its pleasures quickly fade. It does not behove a revered and notable Moslem like yourself to heed the things of this world and to refrain from joining in holy war.

"In any case your silence and hesitation to communicate with us do not agree with our belief and conviction in your piety. We have therefore written this letter to you,

hoping you will send your answer by a special messenger whom we shall at once send back to you. If you are a true Moslem, as we believe you are, then lose no time in writing to us.

(Signed) "HASABIALLA WANIMA-EL-WAKIL."

(The Khalifa's seal.)

(Signed) F. R. WINGATE,
Director of Military Intelligence.

Cairo, December 17, 1895.

No. 49.

*The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir Clare Ford.**

(No. 94. Secret.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, December* 30, 1895.

THE Austrian Chargé d'Affaires has communicated the answer returned by the Vatican to the representation made by the Austrian Embassy with regard to the appointment of the Catholic Archbishop of Alexandria.

Renewed assurances were given by the Pope that no fresh appointment was at present in question, and his Holiness said that whenever a change took place he would take care that a French ecclesiastic should not be selected as Mgr. Corbelli's successor.

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* Also to Lord Cromer (No. 40, Secret).